



Teaching Truth - Empowering Kids to Shine

When I'm shining with

FAITHFULNESS

Teaching Tips
and Activities





Hello and welcome to the Kids Light Up 'Teaching Tips and Activities' on FAITHFULNESS.

FAITHFULNESS is about trust and loyalty. It describes those who keep their promises. It is someone who keeps their word, who won't quit on you. They can be trusted to do what they say they will do.

Friendships can be made or broken on a whim, but the hurt from a broken promise can be lasting. Encouraging children to have FAITHFULNESS can be approached from the perspective of choice. When navigating the playground and social play it's our choices that helps us to be a good friend. It is a choice to be loyal and trustworthy.

FAITHFULNESS is being courageous. Sometimes we need to be brave to be FAITHFUL to others, like sticking up for a friend when someone is being mean and unkind. It could be choosing to play with someone who is unpopular that may risk others being unkind to you. We can teach our kids to be brave when it's the right thing to do. We can model to our children by putting others before ourselves. There is reward for acting in this way, such as creating a new friendship and developing good character in ourselves. Showing someone a kindness gives the joy of being a kind and agreeable person; someone others want to play with and be around.

Kids often struggle with doing the right thing and their desire to become popular. They may do and say things to fit in with their peers. They may participate in undesirable behaviours to avoid being teased. It is helpful to have conversations about various scenarios that may be tempting, and then come up with the best ideas to overcome temptation and be bold while remaining loving and kind to those around them.

FAITHFULNESS can mean giving up what you want now in order to help others. What are your kids willing to do without so that others need are met? These are big questions and ideas for kids. With some pre-preparation through activities and discussions we can help children develop this character trait. Practise may make the difference when children are faced with choices whilst navigating friendships.

Teaching Tips:

- Plan a service project with your kids that requires them to make some sort of sacrifice to help others. Talk about motivations as we grow in FAITHFULNESS.
- Brain storm a 'toolkit' with your kids that they can use when they are afraid of being FAITHFUL.



- Use a large sheet of paper or cardboard, tell your kids they are going on a FAITHFULNESS hunt. They can use any resources they want to find the attitudes and behaviours that show FAITHFULNESS.

The activities focus on discovering ways of developing a FAITHFUL character.

These resources can be used with one child, your family members, a small group or a whole class.

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3. FAITHFULNESS

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1. Showing FAITHFULNESS

1.1 Activity

Read the words on the poster (1.2) together.

Think about a time when you needed to make a choice between friends and your desire to do what you want.

How did you feel before you made this choice? How did you feel after it?



1. Showing FAITHFULNESS

1.2 Poster

When something looks better

It could be more fun

I'd rather do that

There's a place for just one!



1. Showing FAITHFULNESS

1.3 Activity

Draw and write.

I show FAITHFULNESS when...

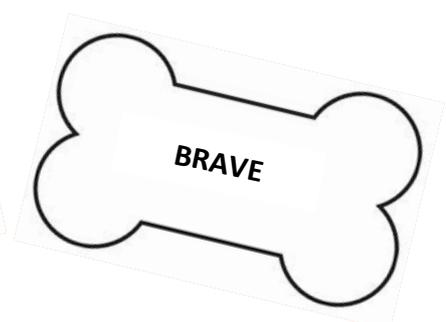
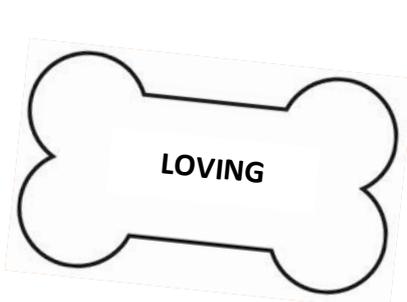
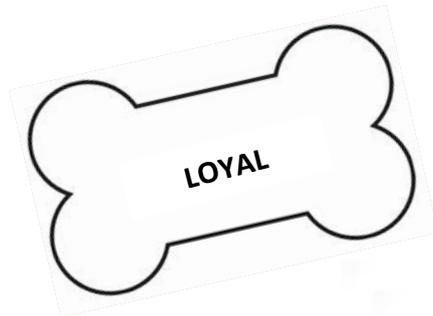


2. Learning and thinking about FAITHFULNESS

2.1 Activity - Faithful dog

Dogs teach us FAITHFULNESS. Characteristics of well-loved dogs is loyalty, loving, trusting. We have to be FAITHFUL in feeding them every day because they can't do this for themselves.

Cut out the dog and the bones with the words on them. Attach blue tac to the bones with the words. Whenever your children show FAITHFULNESS they get to 'feed' the dog, by putting the bone in the dogs' mouth.

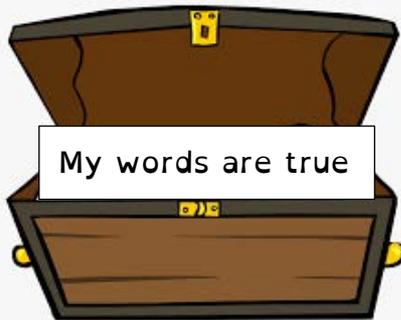


2. Learning and thinking about FAITHFULNESS

2.2 Activity – Treasure hunt - Break it down



Tell your kids you are going on a FAITHFULNESS treasure hunt. Look at the examples of showing FAITHFULNESS from the story. Write your ideas next to the examples, then start noticing them! Can you find these words in the book? Talk about what is happening on these pages.







2. Thinking about FAITHFULNESS

2.3 Activity - Trust



In a group of two, take turns to wear a blind fold or be led by your friend/family member. The 'blind' person must listen and trust the leader. The leader uses words to guide the 'blind' person. As confidence grows you can be imaginative; make an obstacle course - try guiding them under a table, around the chair or up some steps. Be wary to ensure your friend/family member is safe at all times! The leader must lead with loyalty and kindness in order to be trustworthy!

2. Thinking about FAITHFULNESS

2.4 Activity - Work together

Children work together to keep the ball in the middle of the box, using collaboration, communication and cooperation to tilt the box or keep it steady!

(image and idea from www.teachpreschool.org)



3. What does FAITHFULNESS look like?

3.1 Poster

Help a friend.



Be dependable.



Encourage
Someone to
be brave.



Do what you say
you will do.



Include a lonely person.

Make a plan
with a friend.



3. What does FAITHFULNESS look like?

3.2 Activity

Begin by reading 'When I'm Shining with FAITHFULNESS. Talk about what is happening in the illustrations. Ask some questions like:

What does showing FAITHFULNESS look like?

How can you show loyalty and trust to your family or friends?

When have you been brave in front of friends?

Look at the Poster (3.1) together. You may like to print it out on A3 sized paper. Discuss opportunities for when children can show FAITHFULNESS to others. Children may add their own suggestions. Write them on the poster.

Introduce the 'Shine your light' tickets (3.3). Print and cut out. The idea is for children to notice themselves or others 'Shining with FAITHFULNESS during the day.

Children may come to you with things they have noticed, or you may set up a discussion at the end of the day for the children to talk about who they noticed shining with FAITHFULNESS. Write the child's name at the top of the note, then include what they did to 'Shine with FAITHFULNESS'.

You can keep adding in subsequent days to the poster. Alternatively, you could put them in a giant FAITHFULNESS jar, or place them on a tree or a vine display on the wall.



3. FAITHFULNESS

3.3 'Shine your light' tickets



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