

Honesty Is the Best Policy

Theme

Honesty with God and with one another

Object

A picture of Theodore Roosevelt. (see below sermon)

Scripture

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much." Luke 16:10 (NIV)

Have you ever heard of Theodore Roosevelt? He was the 26th president of the United States. Before becoming president, he was a soldier, an author, served as police commissioner of New York City, and was even a cowboy. As a young man, he staked a claim in North Dakota and started his own ranch.

During his time as a rancher, Roosevelt and one of his cowhands lassoed a stray calf. They built a fire and prepared to brand the stray. The part of the range they were on belonged to Gregor Lang, one of Roosevelt's neighbors. According to the cattleman's rules at that time, a stray belonged to the person on whose land it was found. As his cowboy applied the brand, Roosevelt said, "Wait, it should be Gregor Lang's brand."

"That's all right, boss," said the cowboy.

"But you're putting my brand on it," Roosevelt said.

"That's right," said the man.

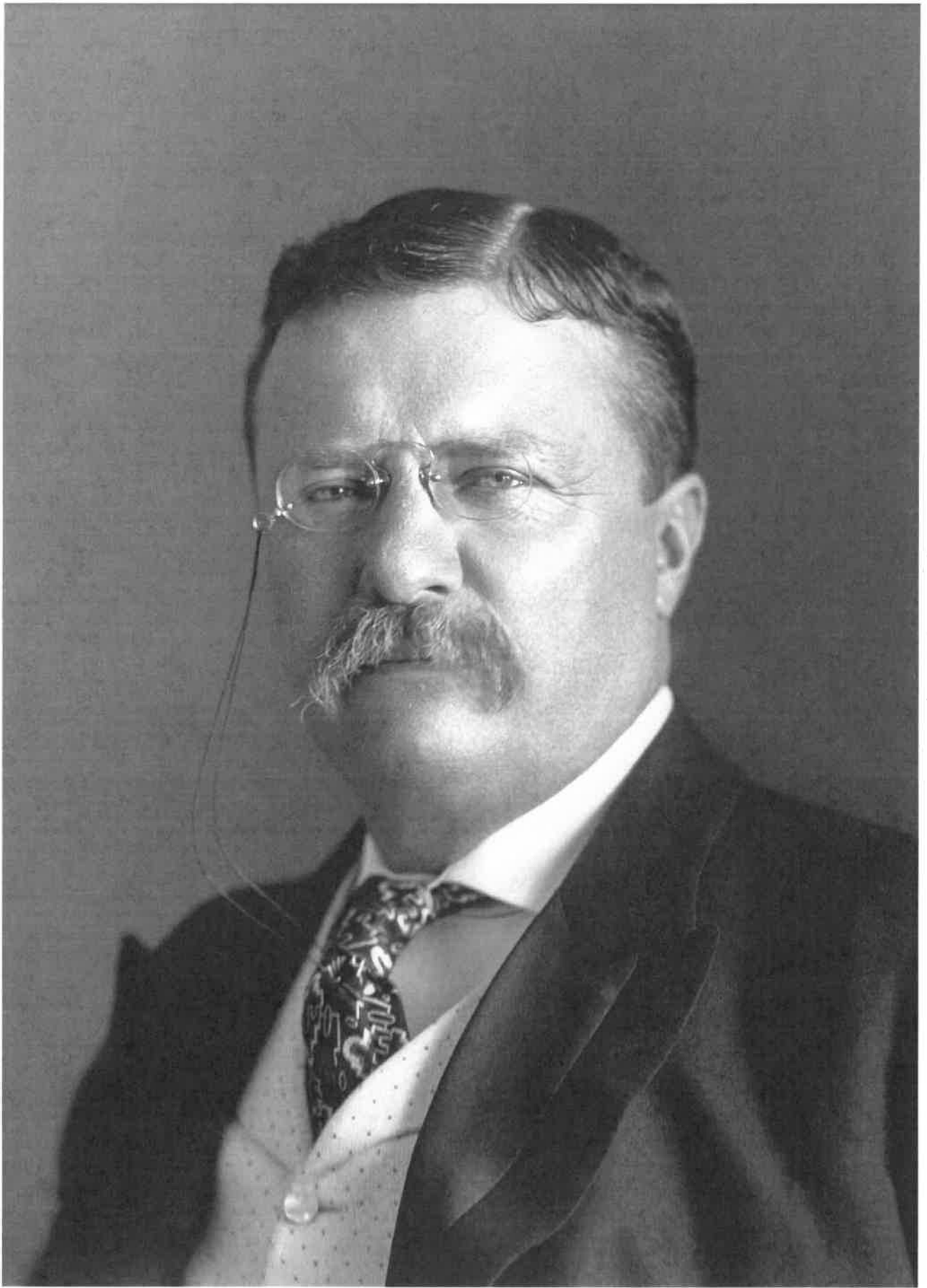
"Drop that iron," Roosevelt demanded, "and get back to the ranch, pack your belongings, and get out. I don't need you anymore. A man who will steal for me will also steal from me."

This story shows us that Theodore Roosevelt had a good understanding of the meaning of honesty.

Jesus told his disciples a story to teach them about honesty. He told them about a rich man who had a manager, and the manager was using the man's money for himself. When the rich man discovered that the manager was wasting his money, he called him in and fired him. After telling this story, Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

If you and I make sure that we are honest in the small things, then we can be sure that we will be honest in the big things. If people know that they can trust us in small things, they will know that they can trust us in the big things too.

Dear Father, help us to remember what Jesus taught about honesty and help us to be honest in every situation " big or small. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Sermon Title: "The Dishonest Manager" and "Honesty Is the Best Policy"

Scripture Reading: Luke 16:1-13

MONEY BAG:

Provide each child with felt pieces to "sew" together with non-sharp plastic needles and yarn with some extra yarn to PULL the top of the bag together. Give the children pretend money coins to place in the bag as children are allowed to COUNT the number of coins for their own bag, as the teacher directs. Remind children to be HONEST. One slip of paper with today's Bible verse can be given to children to place inside their money bag.

HONESTY DOOR KNOB HANGER:

Give children foam door knob hangers to decorate with stickers and permanent markers with the word HONESTY, writing today's Bible verse on the door knob hanger as well!

HONESTY KEY CHAIN:

Give each child a chenille wire or an inexpensive key chain to hang "honesty circles" from to remind children the "keys to being honest". Give the children round circles to decorate and write words to remind them to be honest. For example: in school, with friends, with family, with teachers. Hole punch the circles and hang them on the key chain.

UNSCRAMBLE HONESTY WORDS:

Chalkboard Group FUN: Unscramble words on the board as the children come into the classroom. SCRAMBLE words that are in our story such as HONESTY, DOLLAR, TRUST, CHOICES, LOVE, MONEY, RIGHT THING, etc.

HONESTY CLOCK:

Have each child draw a large clock with the 12, 3, 6 and 9 on the clock and write or draw a picture beside those 4 times of the day when they might be tempted or have the CHOICE to do the "right thing". (Examples: 12 noon - to share a part of their lunch or to thank the teacher for something; 3:00 - to be honest about homework or being kind to someone on the bus or cleaning their home when they get, etc; 6:00 - to help prepare dinner, set the table or clean up after dinner; 9:00 - read their Bible and go to bed with prayer, etc) Luke 16:10 could be written on the middle of the clock.

HONESTY ACROSTIC:

Have each child draw \$ signs around the edge of their paper and write words for HONESTY acrostic for choices that THEY will have to be HONEST about in their lives. Luke 16:10 could be

written on their paper.

HONESTY PAPER PLATE:

Give each child a paper plate and let them draw a circle in the middle with the word HONESTY in the circle. Let the children draw lines to form spokes to 5 or 6 different areas of the plate with ways to be HONEST or GOOD CHOICES this next week written on the lines. Decorate or lightly color the paper plate and take it home to hang on their wall or place on their pillow each morning to remind them of GOD's desire for them to be Honest and Trustworthy and to make GOOD CHOICES each day!

BUMBLE "BEE" CRAFT:

Have each child cut out a large yellow bumble BEE and attach black chenille wire antennae, etc - decorate their BEE and write on the BEE ---such "Bees" as BEE truthful; BEE honest; BEE faithful; BEE like Jesus; BEE trustworthy!

DOLLAR FOLDING:

(just for FUN while discussing the lesson once again) Each child could be given a dollar bill to see who can FOLD that dollar bill the smallest. Teacher can either give that dollar to the child or put the money into the Sunday School offering!

COOKIE JAR:

The teacher will show the children a jar full of cookies and ask them if they have ever played the game "Who stole the cookies from the cookie jar?" Let them know that this time it is quite all right to have a cookie from the cookie jar!

Song: "I Surrender All" - Judson W. Van DeVenter & Winfield S. Weeden
[Sheet Music \(PDF\)](#)

[Piano Accompaniment \(MP3\)](#) Right click and save to your computer.

Song: "This Little Light of Mine" - Author Unknown
[Sheet Music \(PDF\)](#)

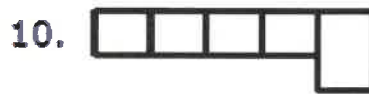
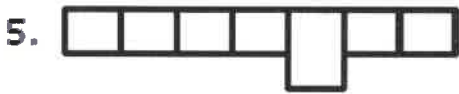
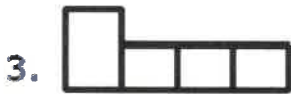
[Piano Accompaniment \(MP3\)](#) Right click and save to your computer.

The Dishonest Manager

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much." Luke 16:10 (NIV)



Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



servant	dishonest	hate	love	much
little	wealth	trust	manager	money

FILL IN THE BLANKS

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

There was a _____ man who accused his manager of wasting his possessions.

job

He told his manager to give him an _____ of his management.

debtors

The manager said his master was taking his _____ away.

master

The manager said he was ashamed to _____.

rich

The manager said when he lost his job people would welcome him into their _____.

shrewdly

The manager called in each one of his master's _____.

account

He asked each debtor how much they owed his _____.

light

The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted _____.

beg

Worldly people can deal better with their own kind than can people of the _____.

money

You cannot serve both God and _____.

houses

Need help? Read Luke 16:1-13

Created for Sermons 4 Kids by Lu Juanna Kotis

ACROSTIC PUZZLE

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

Use the numbered clues to find the word to fill in the boxes.
Copy the letters from the shaded boxes to the space in the sentence.

1							The opposite of UGLY.
2							The opposite of YOUNG.
3							The opposite of FAST.
4							The day STAR.
5							The opposite of LATE.
6							It covers the beach.
7							The place where we LEARN.
8							The opposite of OUT.
9							The number before TWO.
10							The opposite of DAY
11							The opposite of WELL.

There was a rich man whose manager was accused
of wasting his _____.

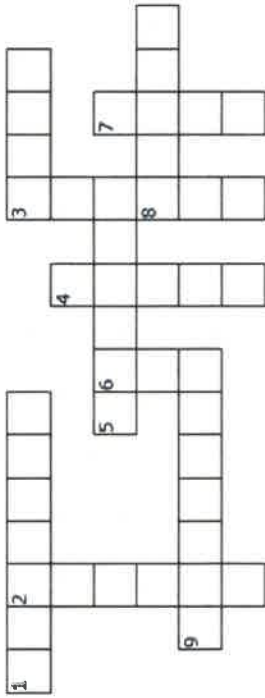
SECRET MESSAGE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

14	15			15	14	5			3	1	14			19	5	18	22	5			20	23	15						
13	1	19	20	5	18	19								5	9	20	8	5	18			25	15	21		23	9	12	12
8	1	20	5				20	8	5			15	14	5			1	14	4			12	15	22	5		20	8	5
15	20	8	5	18					15	18				25	15	21			23	9	12	12			2	5			
4	5	22	15	20	5	4			20	15			20	8	5			15	14	5			1	14	4				
4	5	19	16	9	19	5			20	8	5			15	20	8	5	18					25	15	21				
3	1	14	14	15	20				19	5	18	22	5			2	15	20	8			7	15	4			1	14	4
13	15	14	5	25																									

LUKE 16:13 (NIV)

Crossword Puzzle



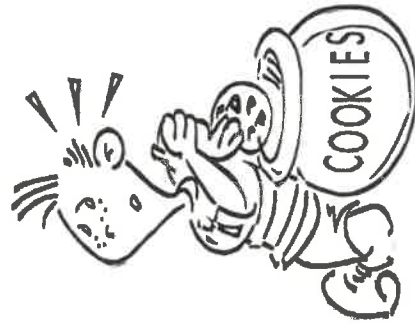
ACROSS

1. A person who performs duties around the home of a master
3. To like something very much
5. Truthful, trusted, not likely to steal, cheat or lie
8. To have complete confidence in someone
9. To feel a strong dislike for someone or something

DOWN

2. A large amount of money or valuable possessions that someone has
3. A very small amount
4. The Son of God
6. To be obligated to repay a debt to someone
7. A very large amount

MUCH LOVE	OWE RICHES	LITTLE HONEST	SERVANT TRUST	DESPISE JESUS
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Children's Worship Bulletin

The Dishonest Manager

Luke 16:1-13

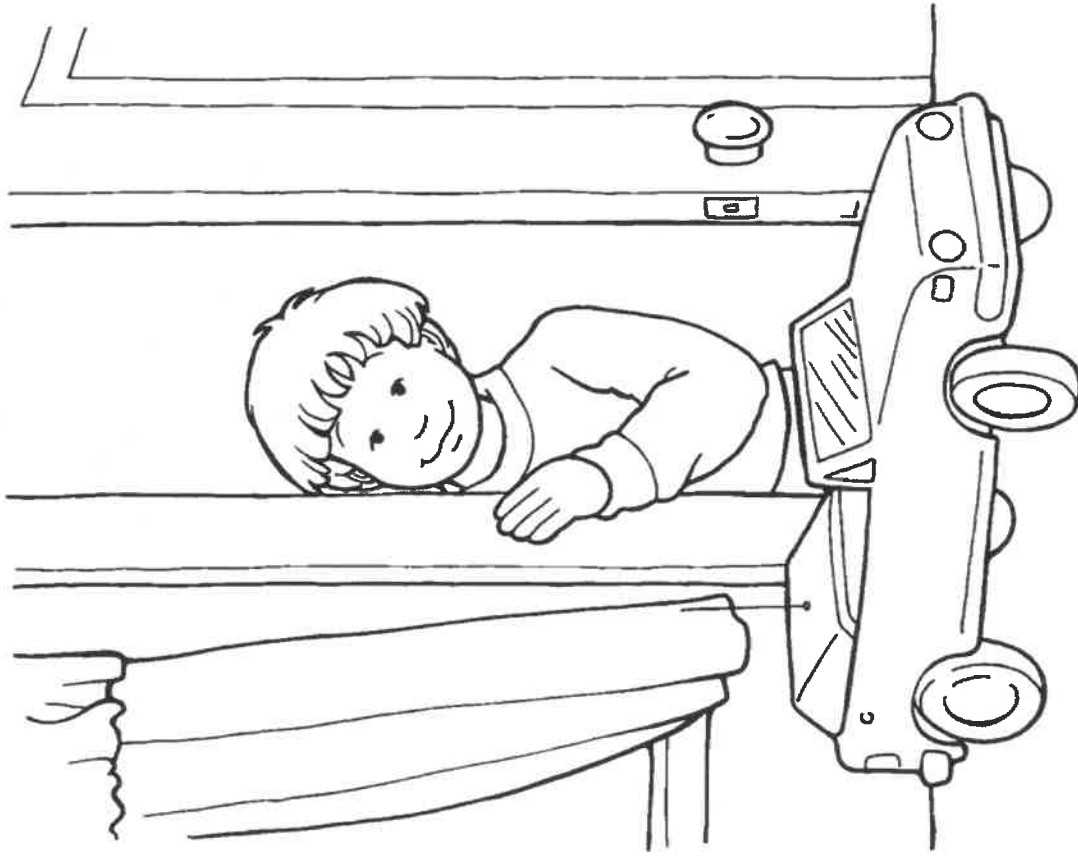
Word Search Puzzle

K E L C E K I X I Z A R S C C
 P R K V Y W Q G F W Q O T G H
 R A R W L A R W E A L T H C Q
 V E U E J E C E G T K A I N P
 S M O R G X O C S S K R K D X
 F G M A C E R E O F M S F R D
 C H N A L E N V V U D R H V D
 A A I P S O M Q M P N Z U O E
 M W O J H T G M O G D T P V B
 S E V S T Z E E N A U F O R T
 P J I M F Q P R E K V L E S O
 B D A N P L Y O Y C K T U U R
 H K D V O P R M U C D A R X F S
 Y P R O P E R T Y H T L L Z N U
 W Z W X G V P W A S T I N G C

DISHONEST	SERVE	WASTING	HATE	ACCOUNT
MONEY	RICH	DEBTORS	MANAGER	TRUST
PROPERTY	MASTER	PEOPLE	LOVE	WEALTH

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
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Killeen, Texas

Coloring Page



I will follow Jesus when I am tempted to do wrong.

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Multiple Choice Quiz

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
B	C	P	L	V	J	K	A	D	X	N	R	Y	F	S	H	W	I	E	O	G	Z	Q	T	M	U

- 4-20-5-19 _____
- 15-19-12-5-8-11-24 _____
- 4-18-24-24-4-19 _____
- 25-8-11-8-21-19-12 _____
- 17-19-8-4-24-16 _____
- 9-18-15-16-20-11-19-15-24 _____
- 25-26-2-16 _____
- 24-12-26-15-24 _____
- 16-8-24-19 _____
- 25-20-11-19-13 _____

DISHONEST	TRUST	LITTLE	MANAGER	MONEY
WEALTH	MUCH	LOVE	SERVANT	HATE



"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

Luke 16:10



I will follow Jesus when I am tempted to do wrong.

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