

# LEARNER SHEET: DEFEND TRUTH

1 Kings 3:16-28



## PRAYER TIME

Remember your partner's prayer needs—record them here.

## DISCUSSION TIME

- **Create a list of truth tellers. What creates this trust and makes you believe they speak the truth?**
  
- **How does the game “Truth or Dare” fit in a conversation about bearing false witness?**
  
- **Talk about how lying and gossip have affected you.**
  
- **How can magazine and TV ads be a form of false witness? Are they accurate? Are the images truthful? What can or should we do to counter or protect ourselves and others from this false witnessing?**

### THE BIG IDEA

**God wants our words to protect and preserve the truth.**

### BIG FUN IDEA

Spend an afternoon together in a courtroom to see how the justice process works, and how truth is integral to what is accomplished in court. Go out for ice cream afterward and discuss what you observed.

### BIG SERVING IDEA

Words are powerful, whether they're used to deceive or praise. So speak well of your neighbor! Write thank-you notes to everyone who volunteers with confirmation or youth groups, as well as to a few of the “unsung heroes” of your church—the people who stay low on the radar but are always ready and willing to lend a hand.

# LEARNER TAKE-HOME SHEET: DEFEND TRUTH

I Kings 3:16-28



## KEY WORDS

Keep a family white board someplace near the dinner table, and write these words on it. Try writing a family definition for each one during the week.

**INTEGRITY**  
**GENUINENESS**  
**HUMILITY**  
**CHARITABLE**  
**TRUTH**

Take this sheet home and keep it someplace near the dinner table like on the fridge. At least three times next week at dinner, use Prayer Time and one other family activity to make your confirmation learning come alive!

## PRAYER TIME

Pray for truth tellers in our world. Pray for people who have suffered or been unduly oppressed for speaking the truth. Pray also for those whom we expect to be truth tellers (governmental leaders, judges, police, and so forth), that they would be honest and true in the fulfillment of their vocations.

## TALK TIME

- Share how, when, and where you learned the value of honesty. Can you—either parents or youth—name a particular time when you had to make a difficult choice to tell the truth, stop some gossip, or fess up to your own lie? Can you name role models who influenced you to speak truthfully and charitably about others? Are there incidents of truth telling in your immediate family that you can affirm?
- Work together on a family definition of “speaking the truth in love.”
- How does your family “speak truth to power”? What might that look like in your context? What makes it difficult to “speak the truth in love” and “speak truth to power”?



## WEB TIME

Search the Web for the word *truth*. What sites come up? Who sponsors the sites? What is their definition of truth? Does their definition feel truthful to you? Then use the Web to learn more about the witness to truth of a famous truth teller, such as Martin Luther, Desmond Tutu, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, or Gandhi.

## RITUAL TIME

Words are powerful, whether they're used to deceive or praise. Ask each family member to agree to take time alone to write letters to other family members expressing the things you love and appreciate about them. Choose a night to share these letters with one another. Play soft music, light a candle to mark this as a sacred time and space, and read the letters silently, or take turns reading aloud.