



## Clue #1

"But she lied to me! But he stole my stuff! But they weren't playing fair!" I used to hear these words a lot when I was a teacher. Kids often felt like it was okay for them to lie, steal, or cheat because someone else in the class had done it to them. The truth is, we likely will be lied to, stolen from, and cheated by others in our life. But that doesn't change the fact that God tells us to be honest. He doesn't want us to follow people and do as they do; He wants us to follow Him. Today in our search for the secret, we find what God tells us in the Bible about being honest.

Find the **LIE**, the **CHEAT**, and the **STEAL**, cards hidden in your search area to get started!

Do You  
Need  
a Pen?



## Clue #2

You got to read 3 Bible verses to earn this clue!  
Now you will need to use this clue to **WRITE** a message which will help you move on in your search!  
I guess you will need a pen to **WRITE** with.

A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I

J	K	L
M	N	O
P	Q	R

S  
T X U  
V

W  
X · Y  
Z



### Clue #3

Time for a group activity! Look in the kitchen cabinets to find everything you will need to complete **Challenge #2**.



### Clue #4

Zacchaeus learned from Jesus what a better life you can have when you live honestly. Caring about people is way more important than caring about money.

Look low to find **Puzzle #3** to do a little Zacchaeus paybacks.



### Clue #5

You did some great math figuring out that puzzle and finding your way to this clue. One last puzzle to find and solve and you should be ready to unlock the treasure!

Look high to spot the next puzzle.



# LIE, CHEAT, and STEAL Cards



## LIE

**Ephesians 4:25**



## CHEAT

**Proverbs 20:23**



## STEAL

**Exodus 20:15-16**

## PUZZLE #1

Decode this message to move on in your search.













## Challenge #1

Have fun doing this challenge activity together!  
Then you can turn back to your Bible and find  
another verse in Luke. This time it is Luke 19:8.

- First step is to fill the glass with nice, clean water. Imagine this glass of water is us. We know God's word tells us to be honest and not lie, cheat, or steal. We try to live honestly each day like God teaches - staying nice and clean like the water.
- Now take a nickel and drop it into the glass of water. See it there on the bottom of the glass? Imagine that is a mistake we made in living honestly. Is that nickel hard to see or easy to see?
- When we make mistakes, which everyone does at some point, other people may see or hear about us being dishonest. We are likely to feel embarrassed or sorry that we lied, cheated or stole from someone.
- That's when we apologize and figure out a way to fix our mistake. We are going to do that with our glass by dropping pennies in to cover up the nickel. The pennies represent our apologies and our work to fix the problem we caused with our dishonesty.
- Take turns dropping pennies into the glass till the nickel is covered.
- Was it harder than you thought it was going to be to cover the nickel? That is very similar to how hard it is to cover up a lie or other dishonest act. God wants us to know this so we won't be tempted. And like His word says, when we can be trusted with little, we will be trusted with more.





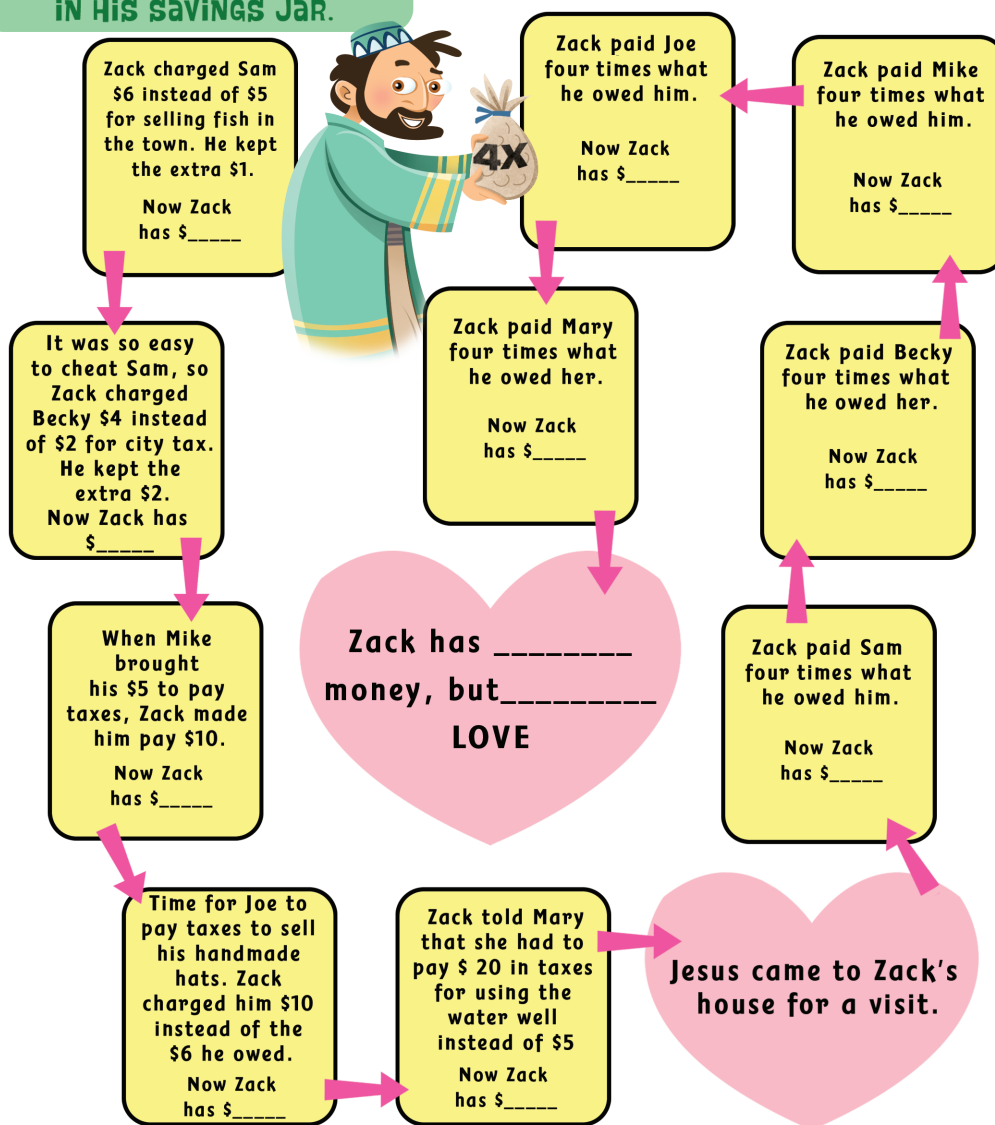
## PUZZLE #3

Zacchaeus told Jesus he would pay back everyone he cheated four times what he had actually stolen from them.

Work your way through this maze puzzle to come out at the end honest like Zacchaeus - AKA Zack!

Then you can head back to your Bible and find Romans 13:9-10.

**ZACK STARTS HIS CAREER AS  
A TAX COLLECTOR WITH \$200  
IN HIS SAVINGS JAR.**





You will need to decode this last secret message to get your combination to the treasure! It might be a bit tricky! Look hard at your puzzle solution, might even have to look at it four times to find it.

A cartoon illustration of a woman with long, wavy red hair. She is wearing a green long-sleeved top. She has a thoughtful expression, with her right hand resting on her chin and her eyes partially closed. The background is plain white.



# ★ CONGRATULATIONS! ★

Way to go! You completed this tenth section of the Search for the Secret! You are well on your way to understanding the secret of handling money God's way!

This week, our focus was on honesty or the lack of honesty. We found that God does not approve of lies, stealing, or cheating. We can apply that knowledge to our lives each day, and we can also apply it to the way we get and handle our money.

It doesn't matter if it is a little money or millions and millions of dollars, it can all be earned and managed honestly. God wants good and great things for us, but He doesn't want us to get these things by hurting others.

We learned from the story of Zacchaeus that even if we do make bad choices, God doesn't give up on us. God keeps loving us and watching us, hoping to see us changing our ways – like Zacchaeus did.

When we realize that we have made bad choices and hurt others, we can also apologize and make up for the hurt we caused.

Most importantly, this week we read that what God really wants is for us to love each other. Yes, we need money to survive, but there is no reason for us to hurt others so we can get more money. We can earn it and care for it honestly, showing that we are trustworthy to earn and care for more.

## Weekly Bible Verses

Leviticus 19:11

Ephesians 4:25

Exodus 20:15-16

Proverbs 20:23

Luke 16:10

Luke 19:8

Romans 13:9-10

