

Lesson 23

Truth In Love

Read Ephesians 4:15. We must speak the truth in love so that we will grow up into Jesus Christ. Children grow taller as they grow older. Both children and adults grow spiritually as they learn and study the Bible. They grow stronger in faith. They grow in their knowledge of God and His word. No one, no matter how old he or she is, should ever stop growing in Jesus. One way to grow spiritually is to speak the truth in love.

Copy Ephesians 4:15 on the lines below.

Ephesians 4:15

Find each of these words
in the puzzle two times:

SPEAK
TRUTH
LOVE
GROW
CHRIST

T	S	P	E	A	K	S	T
L	R	C	F	L	O	P	R
O	E	U	B	G	C	E	U
V	G	R	T	G	H	A	T
E	R	H	I	H	R	K	H
L	O	V	E	F	I	O	N
G	W	R	C	R	S	E	W
C	H	R	I	S	T	D	C

Lesson 23 - continued

Truth In Love

Speaking the truth in love means that we don't boast or brag or show off or try to put other people down. Speaking the truth is important, but we must always remember to speak the truth in love. We can speak the truth in love by speaking gently and compassionately and with respect for the people we are talking to, remembering to treat them the same way we want to be treated.

Read the following story about Tyler and Kelly.

One September morning, Tyler and Kelly both auditioned to be in the play their homeschool group was putting on. They both knew that only a few children were going to be given speaking parts. The rest of the children would be in the chorus. Tyler and Kelly both had their hearts set on receiving a speaking role. They talked to their mom about the try-outs all the way home. They were both very excited. The only thing left to do was to wait for Mrs. Hampshire, the director, to call them tomorrow and let them know what their part in the play would be.

After lunch on the following day, Kelly went outside to play in the backyard. Soon after she was out the door, the phone rang. Tyler's mom answered it.

"Oh, hello, Mrs. Hampshire," he heard her say. Tyler stood where he was as if he was frozen. He was nervous and could hardly wait for his mom to get off the phone and tell him the news.

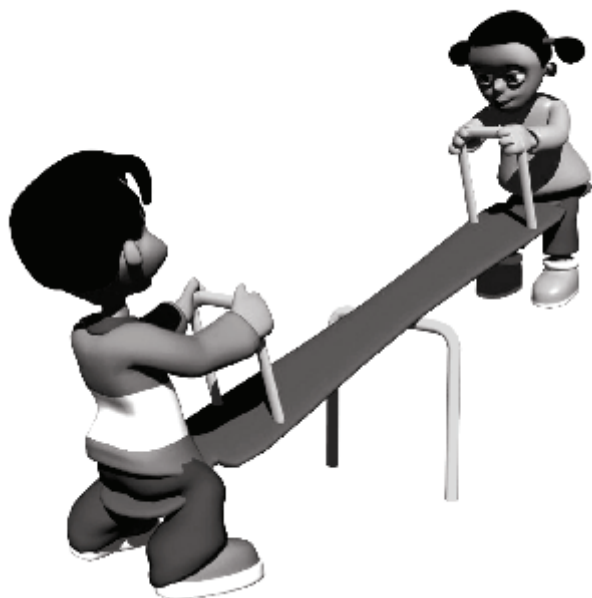
"Thank you," Tyler's mom said, "I'll let them know." She hung up the phone and smiled. "Congratulations, Tyler Williams," she said. "You were chosen to play the lead role in the play!"

"I was?" Tyler exclaimed. "Oh, boy! What part did Kelly get?"

"She's going to be in the chorus this year. Mrs. Hampshire said she did a good job at the try-outs, but she's really too young for any of the speaking parts."

"Oh," said Tyler. He knew his sister would be disappointed. Tyler went outside and found Kelly trying to see-saw by herself. He sat down opposite her and they began to see-saw together.

"Has Mrs. Hampshire called yet?" Kelly asked. "Did we get the parts we wanted?"



Tyler has to answer his sister. He has to tell her the truth. What should he say? He could boast about the part that he got and make Kelly feel bad. Is there a nice way to break the news to her? How can he speak the truth in love? Write Tyler's kind and truthful reply to Kelly's question.
