



PROVERBS FOR KIDS: HONESTY

**PROVERB: IT IS BETTER TO
BE POOR AND HONEST THAN
TO BE A LIAR AND A FOOL.¹**

Honesty is when you speak the truth and your actions are truthful. You are honest when you tell things as they actually happened without making up a story to exaggerate what happened, make yourself sound better, or cover up something you did wrong. Your actions should also be truthful. You should not have to hide what you are doing or try to trick others.



¹ Proverbs 19:1 ERV

Sometimes it is not easy to be truthful, especially if you have done something wrong and need to admit your error.

Even when it is difficult, honesty is always the right thing to do. A small untruth is still dishonest, and it will make it easier to tell bigger untruths.

We were riding our bikes on the park trail when suddenly there was a big hole in the ground, so we had to go another way.

We then had to go through the old garden of a spooky, abandoned house. I think it was a haunted...

The gate was closed, but then we found the key on the ground.

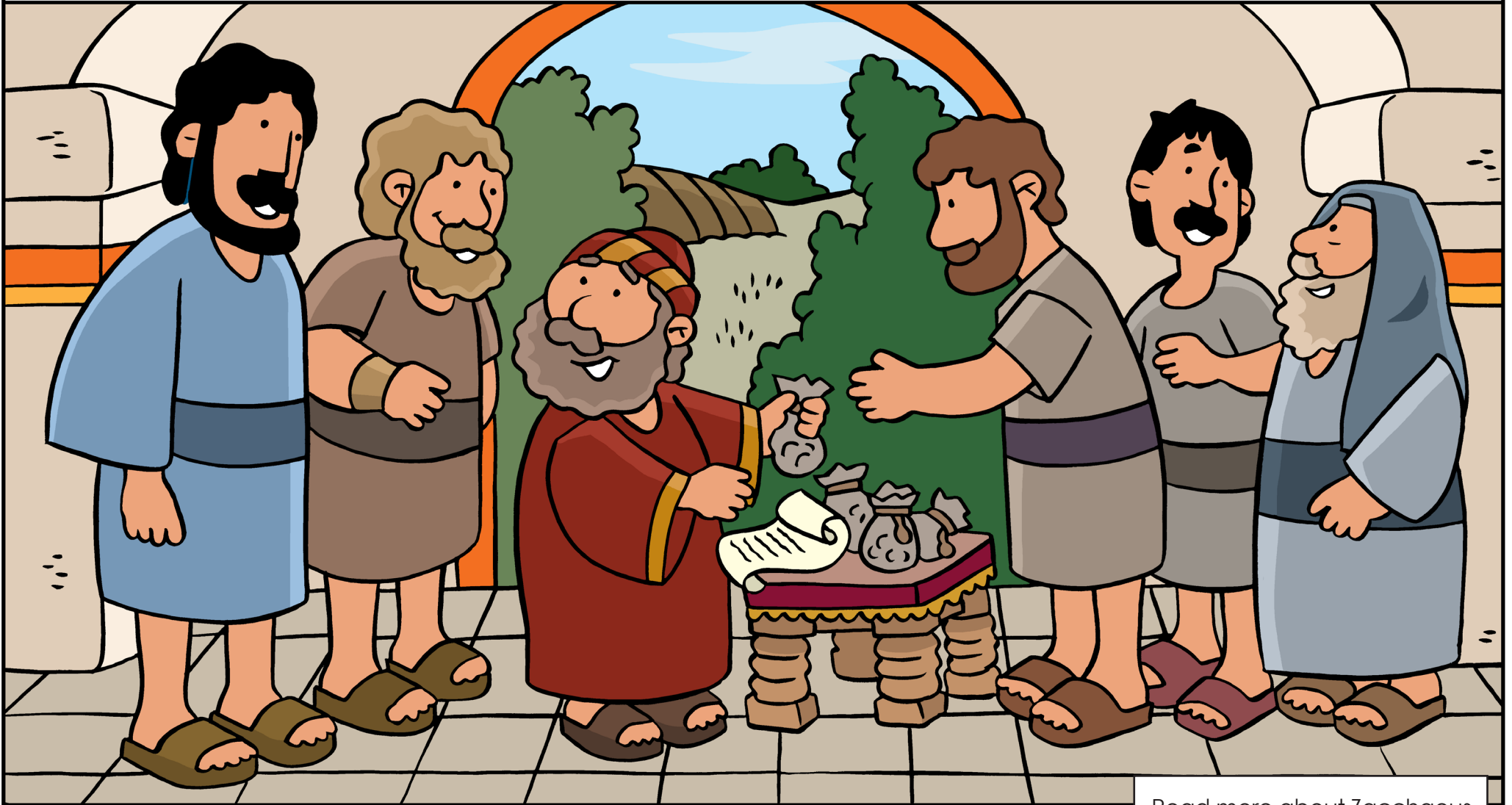
When you are honest, people will trust and respect you.

That seems like a pretty wild tale, Jim. Are you telling the truth?

It's not true. We were at the arcade at the mall and forgot the time!

BIBLE CHARACTER HIGHLIGHT

Zacchaeus was a tax collector. He often would charge the people for more money than the actual tax so that he could keep some for himself. Zacchaeus met Jesus and wanted to change his ways.



He felt bad about how he had taken from people; he chose to be honest and give back to all those he had taken from. Zacchaeus felt much better after he chose to be honest and do what was right.

Read more about Zacchaeus and Jesus in Luke 19:1–10.