How Honest Are You?

Consider the consequences of honesty and dishonesty.

1. I'm going to a party. If Dad or Mom asks about it tomorrow, just say I never left the house.

What will you do?

Do as your brother says. If your parents ask questions later on, tell a lie to protect your brother.

Tell your brother that you will not lie for him. If he sneaks out anyway, tell your parents.

Possible negative consequences if your parents find out that you lied:

__________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________

Possible positive consequences if you tell your parents the truth:

__________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________

“In the long run, your parents will have more trust in you if you just tell the truth.”

—Natasha.

(Read Psalm 119:163. Consider how you personally feel about lies and other forms of falsehood.)
2

I've done something really bad. My conscience is plaguing me!

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

**Keep quiet** about it.

**Talk** to a parent or a mature Christian.

Possible negative consequences of keeping quiet:

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

Possible positive consequences of talking to someone:

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

“If you cover up your mistake, you will never have a clean conscience, and that is a horrible feeling. Plus, when the truth does come out—and it always does—it will just make things worse.”

—Carly.

(Read Ecclesiastes 12:14 and James 5:14-16. Consider how good you will feel after receiving the help you need.)
Hey! Give me the answer to this question on the test!

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

**Give in; after all, you don’t want to appear self-righteous.**

Possible negative consequences of helping your classmate cheat:

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**Refuse to cheat, no matter what your classmate thinks.**

Possible positive consequences of refusing to help your classmate cheat:

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“Dishonesty is like a drug. If you keep being dishonest, it turns into a habit. Then it becomes a part of you.”

—Karen.

(Read Proverbs 29:25. Consider how good you will feel about standing up for what is right.)
Now think of a scenario where dishonesty might be a temptation for you. Write down positive and negative consequences of your potential actions.

**THE SITUATION:**

**WHAT YOU COULD DO:**

**WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:**

**POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES**

Negative: 

Positive: 

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The bottom line: The degree of honesty you display says something about your character. So ask yourself: ‘How do I want to be known by others? Really, what kind of person do I want to be?’—Proverbs 20:11.