

NT62

THE BEREANS

INCLUSIVE BIBLE LESSON



LESSON PLAN INFORMATION

BIBLE PASSAGE:

Acts 17:10-12

OBJECTIVES:

To learn that the Bible helps us measure what is true and what is false.

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To understand that studying the Bible every day helps us grow in understanding and truth.

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To encourage children to test everything they hear against the Bible.

LESSON PLAN

This lesson is designed to complement the resources found in Trueway Kids' lessons on 'The Bereans, which you can access and download for free at: <https://truewaykids.com/the-bereans/>

This lesson offers a diverse range of resources and activities that enrich the story in various engaging ways. We encourage you to select the resources and activities that will best suit the needs and interests of your specific group of children, ensuring an enjoyable and educational experience for all.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION:

- Warmly welcome each child by name.
- Introduce the day's lesson visually on the schedule

DOWNLOAD GRAPHIC FROM: <https://truewaykids.com/visual-schedule/>

- Use simple, child-friendly language to set the stage for the lesson. Say something like, "Have you ever heard something and wondered if it's true? Maybe someone told you something that sounded a little strange, and you weren't sure if you should believe it. Well, a long time ago, there were some people called the Bereans, and when they heard new things about God, they wanted to be sure it was true, so they checked everything by reading the Bible! Today, we're going to learn how we can be like the Bereans by using the Bible to find out what's true and what's not."

2. PRAYER:

Start with a simple and short prayer. Encourage the children to repeat after you. This provides a calm, focused start to the session.

3. INTERACTIVE STUDY TIME:

INTRODUCTION: "WHAT IS THE TREASURE OF TRUTH?"

- Start with: "Have you ever been on a treasure hunt? What kind of treasures did you find?" Show pictures or items of treasure chests and jewels to engage visual learners and help children imagine treasure.
- Introduce the main idea: "Today, we are going on a treasure hunt to find the greatest treasure of all—God's truth in the Bible, just like the Bereans did when Paul taught them in Acts 17."
- Use a treasure box filled with small Bibles or scripture scrolls as a visual aid and explain that the Bible is like a treasure chest full of valuable truths that we need to find and study.

PAUL'S JOURNEY TO BEREIA

- Show a large map showing Paul's route with Berea highlighted.
- Explain: "Paul travelled a long way to share the Good News. When he arrived in Berea, the people wanted to make sure what he said was true, so they studied the Scriptures every day to see if he was telling them the truth."

THE BIBLE MEASURES TRUTH

- Show a ruler and explain: "Just like a ruler helps us measure how long something is, the Bible helps us measure whether something is true."
- Guess and then measure objects around the room with the ruler, then compare this to how we can "measure" what is true by reading the Bible.
- Ask "Why is it important to measure things correctly? Just like the ruler helps us, the Bible helps us know what's right and true."

BIBLE "TRUTH DETECTIVES"

- Hand out "Truth Detective" badges to each child to make them feel like they are on a mission to find the truth.
- Give each child a Bible verse on a card and a statement card that may or may not be true. For example, a statement might be "God only loves good people," and the verse will show that "God loves everyone" (John 3:16).
- Children will read their verse and then compare it with the statement. If the statement matches the verse, they call it "truth"; if it doesn't, they call it "not truth."
- Ask, "How did the Bereans check to make sure what Paul said was true?" (Answer: They compared it to the Scriptures.)

MUSIC & MOVEMENT: "STUDY THE BIBLE EVERY DAY" SONG

- Use music and movement to reinforce the idea that studying the Bible every day helps us grow like the Bereans.
- Sing a song to the tune of "The Wheels on the Bus," adding hand motions to engage kinaesthetic learners.
 - **Song Lyrics:**
We read the Bible every day,
Every day, every day.
We read the Bible every day,
And learn what's true!"

THE SOUR VS. SWEET TEST

- Present a bowl of mixed sweets (some sweet, some sour).
- Explain, "These sweets all look the same, but some are sweet, and some are sour. We can't know just by looking—we have to try them."
- Let each child pick and try a sweet.
- Ask, "Was it sweet or sour? Did you know before you tasted it?"

- Explain, "Just like we tested the sweets, we need to test what people say by comparing it to the Bible, so we don't get tricked by things that aren't true."

VISUAL DEMONSTRATION: "THE DIRTY WATER FILTER"

- Show a container of dirty water and explain, "This water has things we don't want to drink, like how some things people say aren't true."
- Pour the dirty water through a filter to demonstrate how it removes the dirt. Say, "The Bible is like this filter—it helps us remove what's false and keep what's true."
- Ask, "How does the Bible help us filter out what's not true?" and "Why is it important to filter what we hear before believing it?"

CLOSING QUESTIONS

1. What did the Bereans do when they heard Paul's message?
2. Why is it important to check what people say against the Bible?
3. How does the Bible help us know what is true?
4. How can we be like "Truth Detectives" in our daily lives?
5. Why should we study the Bible every day?
6. What are some ways you can practice testing what you hear with the Bible this week?

4. CRAFT ACTIVITY: TRUTH DETECTIVE BADGE



WHAT YOU NEED:

- Printed Truth Detective Badge template
- Colouring equipment
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Optional: Photo of the child (small enough to fit inside the badge)

WHAT TO DO:

1. Give each child a printed Truth Detective Badge template to colour.
2. Once the badge is coloured, have the children cut out the badge pieces.
3. Help the children glue the two sides of the badge back to back.
4. Inside the badge, children can either draw a picture of themselves or glue a small photo in the frame.
5. Read through the "Truth Detective Checklist" together and talk about how each statement helps us check what we hear with the Bible, just like the Bereans did.

TIPS:

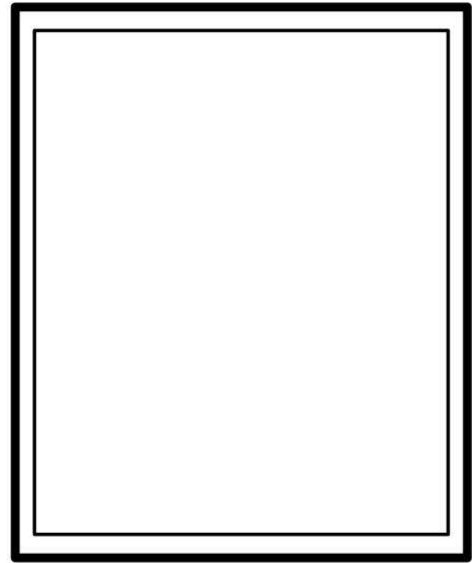
- For younger children or those with fine motor difficulties, pre-cut the pieces and assist with gluing the badge together.
- Encourage children to proudly wear or display their badges as "Truth Detectives" at home!

detective



TRUTH

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Check list

1. I will check if what I hear matches the Bible.
2. I will ask questions if I'm not sure.
3. I will pray and ask God for wisdom.
4. I will listen to what trusted people say.
5. I will remember that the Bible tells me the truth.

5. ACTIVITY STATION FREE PLAY:

For this part of the session, you can set up several activity stations. This allows children to choose what they want to do based on their interests, providing a variety of options that cater to different learning styles and abilities.

Here are some ideas:

SCROLL MAKING STATION:

Set up a table with paper, string, markers, stickers, and glue.

Invite the children to make their own Bible scrolls by rolling up the paper and decorating it with verses or stickers.

Discuss how the Bereans studied the Scriptures to find the truth.

Offer alternatives for children who don't want to write by providing pre-printed Bible verses or stickers to use instead.



MAGNIFYING GLASS EXPLORATION STATION:

Provide magnifying glasses and objects to explore, such as small toys, pictures of Paul's journey, or Bible verse cards.

Encourage the children to examine the objects closely, explaining how the Bereans "searched" the Scriptures for truth.

Use larger objects or visual aids for children who may need additional support with fine motor skills or visual impairments.



TRUTH SCAVENGER HUNT STATION:

Hide paper scrolls around the room, each labelled with Bible truths.

Encourage the children to search for the scrolls, just like the Bereans searched the Scriptures.

For children with mobility challenges, hide the scrolls at reachable levels and provide help if needed.



BIBLE READING CORNER STATION:

Set up a quiet, cosy space with soft cushions, rugs, and a few age-appropriate children's Bibles or Bible storybooks.

Encourage the children to sit and read Bible stories or verses related to truth.

Offer audio versions of Bible stories or picture Bibles for children who may have difficulty reading.



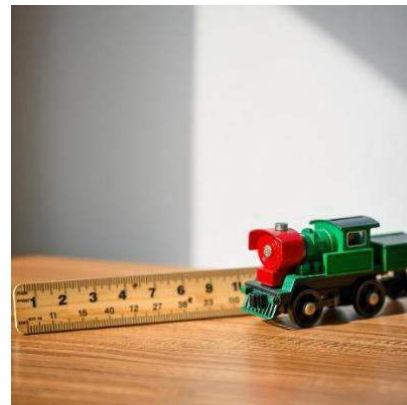
MEASURING TRUTH STATION:

Set up a table with various items labelled with measurements (e.g., “10 inches,” “5cm”) and a ruler or measuring tape.

Invite children to measure each item to see if the label matches the actual measurement.

Explain that just as we use a ruler to check if measurements are true, we use the Bible to check if what we hear is true, just like the Bereans did.

Provide large, easy-to-handle rulers or measuring tapes for children who may need additional support.



TRUTH SENSORY BOX STATION:

Create a sensory box filled with various textures and items (e.g., smooth stones, soft fabric, rough sandpaper).

Ask questions such as “Is this item smooth?” Children will explore each item by touch and decide.

Discuss how, just as we use our senses to check if something feels right, we use the Bible to check if what we hear is true.

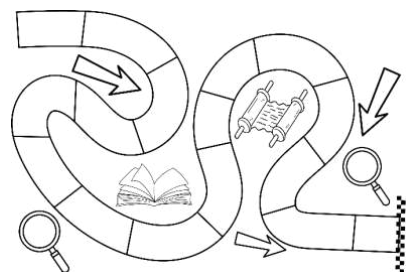


TRUE OR FALSE BOARD GAME STATION:

Print a simple board game with a path for children to move along by answering True or False questions correctly.

Questions can be a mix of general knowledge and Bible-based statements.

Children advance a space for each correct answer.



WORKSHEETS AND COLOURING PAGES:

In Section 7 – You will find Worksheets and resources to use with this lesson. Refer to main lesson pack for additional pages:

<https://truewaykids.com/the-bereans/>

6. CLOSING PRAYER:

EXAMPLE PRAYER WITH HAND ACTIONS:

"DEAR GOD, THANK YOU FOR GIVING US YOUR WORD TO HELP US KNOW WHAT'S TRUE."

- **"Dear God"**: Point upwards.
- **"Thank you for giving us your Word"**: Hold hands like you're opening a book (representing the Bible).
- **"To help us know what's true"**: Tap your head gently.

"HELP US TO READ THE BIBLE EVERY DAY AND CHECK EVERYTHING AGAINST YOUR WORD."

- **"Help us to read the Bible every day"**: Make a reading motion with hands like turning a page.
- **"And check everything"**: Hold hands like binoculars to show checking.
- **"Against Your Word"**: Hold hands like an open book again.

"SHOW US HOW TO BE LIKE THE BEREANS, ALWAYS LOOKING FOR YOUR TRUTH."

- **"Show us"**: Point to your eyes.
- **"How to be like the Bereans"**: Make a searching motion with your hands.
- **"Always looking for your truth"**: Hold hands over your heart.

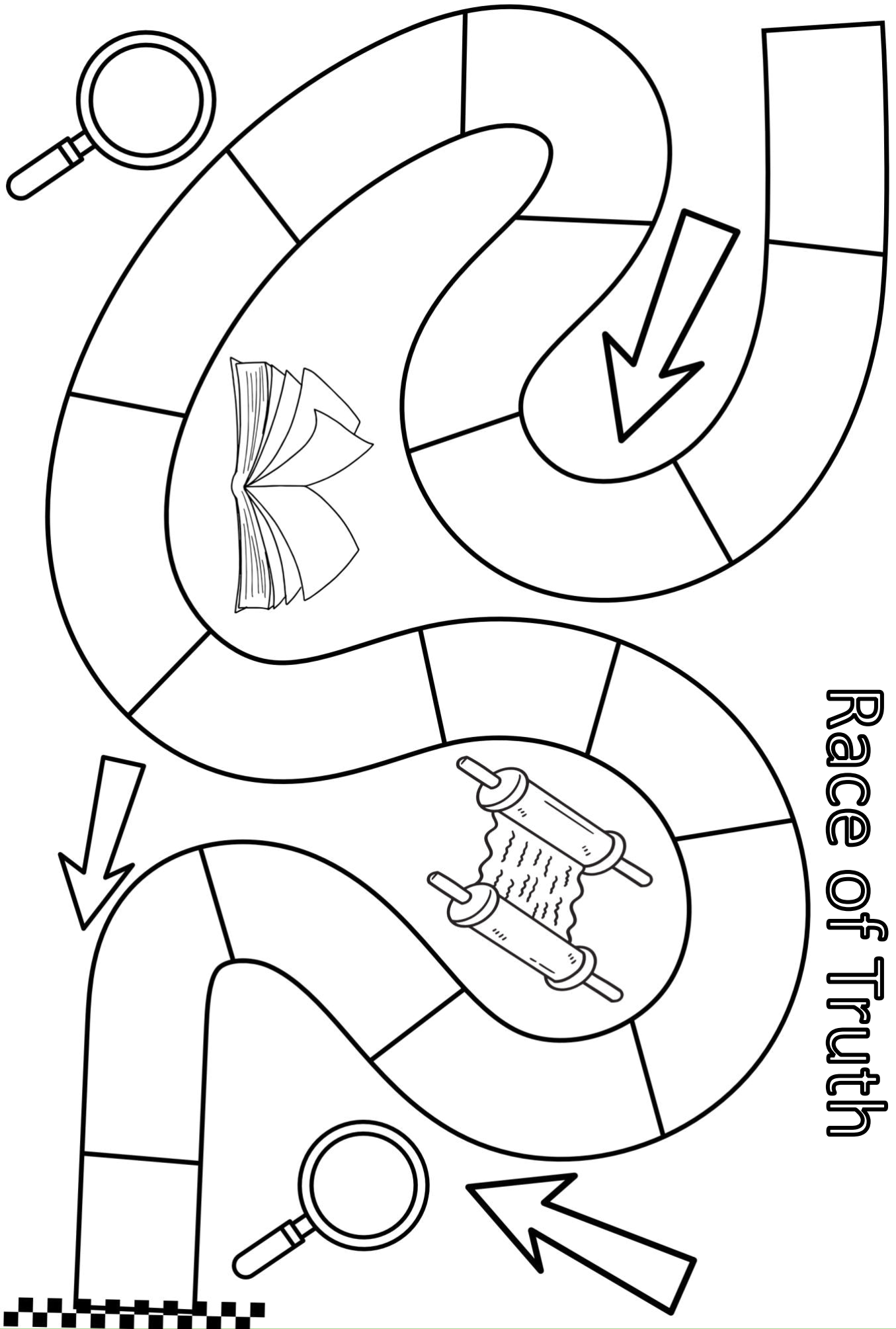
"IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN."

- **"In Jesus' name"**: Point upwards again.
- **"Amen"**: Hands together in a praying position.

7. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. Board game template (To colour and play)
2. Story Images
3. Worksheets

Race of Truth







True or False

1. The Bereans listened to Paul and believed everything without checking.

True

False

2. The Bereans read the Scriptures every day.

True

False

3. Paul was angry when the Bereans wanted to check the Bible.

True

False

4. The Bereans were from the city of Berea.

True

False

5. The Bible helped the Bereans know what was true.

True

False

6. Paul taught the Bereans about Jesus.

True

False

7. The Bereans trusted the Scriptures more than what people said.

True

False

8. We can be like the Bereans by reading the Bible and checking what we hear.

True

False

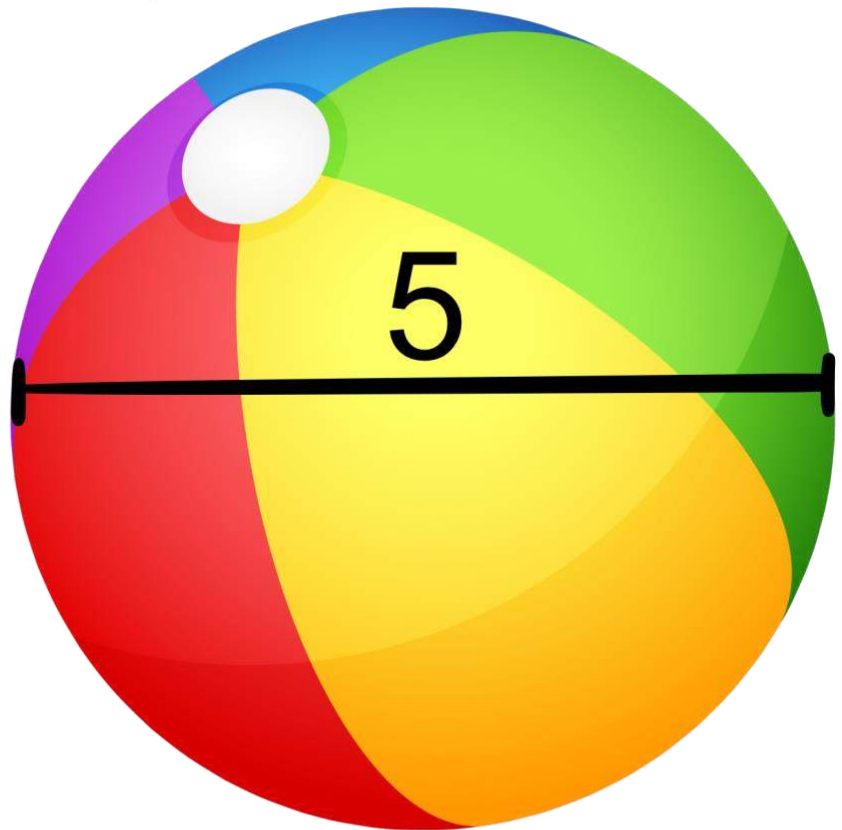
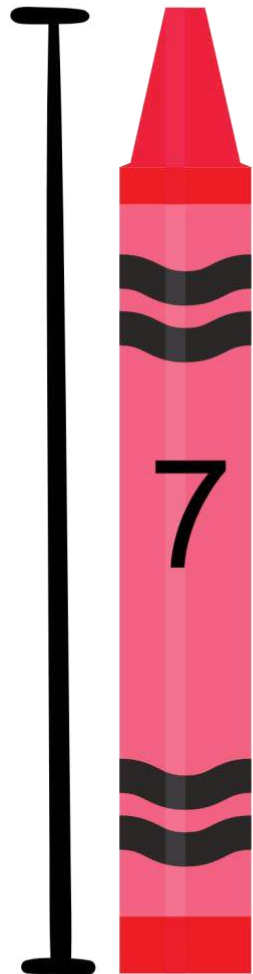
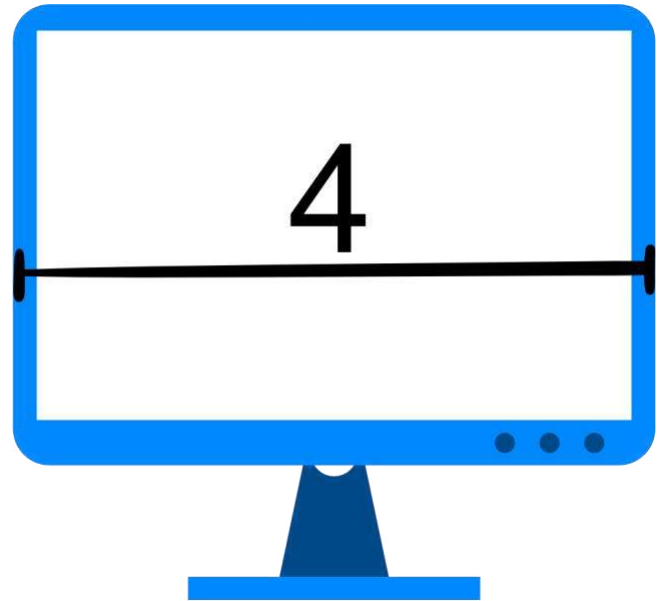
Which image is fake?

Look at each set of pictures. One picture is correct, and the other is silly. Circle the picture that is not silly!





Measure the items to check if the size is true



Find the word 'TRUTH' ten times



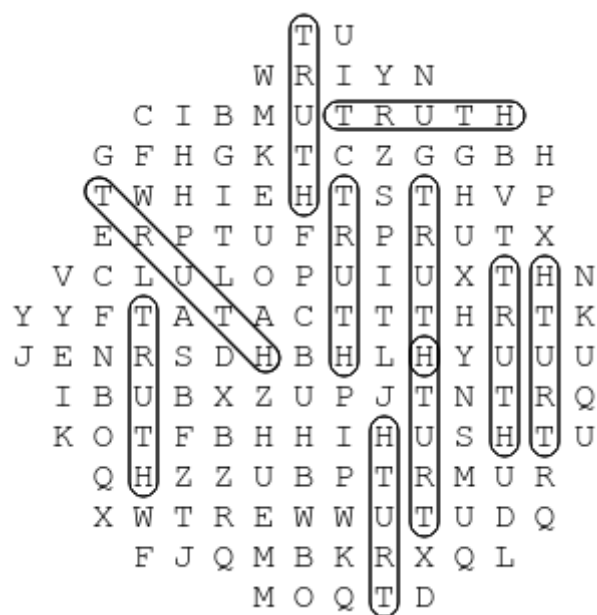
Now the Bereans were more noble-minded than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if these teachings were true. - Acts 17:11



The Bereans

Answer Key:

- 1 - False
- 2 - True
- 3 - False
- 4 - True
- 5 - True
- 6 - True
- 7 - True
- 8 - True



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