

Fool Me Once

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1

**Lesson 6****Focus:**

Hate evil, love good.

Lesson 6**Bible Basis:**

Amos 2:6-7, 10-12;
5:6-8, 12-15,
21-24; 7:10-15

Lesson 6**Memory Verse:**

Hate evil, love good. —Amos 5:15

Students will watch a video about magic tricks and deception as they explore evil and good.

Materials:

- Internet access

➤ **Have you ever seen a really cool magic trick? Tell us about it.** (Try to keep discussion brief so multiple students have an opportunity to share.)

➤ **Did you ever wish you could do a trick that would fool someone else? How would you use it?** (Answers may vary.)

Using sleight of hand or clever challenges to fool people is one of the oldest pastimes in the world. But sometimes, a trick seems really impossible! This video shows a few remarkable illusions and explains how they are performed. Watch closely.

Play this video for the students [2:40].

5 Magic Tricks That You Can Do

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTImE1BFluY>

This video showed how clever planning and design can fool hundreds or even thousands of ordinary people. Of course, these kinds of tricks don't do any harm. But when someone actually sets out to be dishonest, illusions and trickery are a big problem.

➤ **Have you ever found out you have been tricked or deceived by someone? How did it make you feel?** (Try to keep discussion brief so multiple students have an opportunity to share.)

➤ **Was there ever a time that you chose to be dishonest about something important? What happened?** (Students may be reluctant to share at first, so be sure to provide an example from your own experience.)

Magic tricks may be harmless, but dishonesty is not. Today's lesson talks about the harm done when the people of God weren't honest or just. Let's see what happened.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Fool Me Once

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 6

Focus:

Hate evil, love good.

Lesson 6

Bible Basis:

Amos 2:6-7, 10-12;
5:6-8, 12-15,
21-24; 7:10-15

Lesson 6

Memory Verse:

Hate evil, love good. —Amos 5:15

Materials:

- None

As students clean up from Step 3, move back toward the lesson focus. **The prophet Amos was really clear about the differences between good and evil. He had a lot to say about injustice and evil in Israel.**

- **What were some of the evils Amos saw in Israel?** (Possible answers might include: oppressing the poor, giving and accepting bribes, denying justice.)

If we are supposed to hate evil and love good, it's important that we recognize evil and injustice. Sadly, injustice isn't just a vague idea; it's something that can exist in our own schools and communities.

- **What are some things that you see around you in your daily lives that seem unfair or unjust?** (Answers might include: bullying, people being treated differently, or other inequalities.)
- **Have you ever been a part of something that was unfair or wrong?** (Encourage students to share without blame by sharing your own experience.)

Separate the students into groups of 4 or 5 each. If your class is meeting online, you can use the breakout room feature of your video chat software. **Let's spend the rest of the class time discussing different areas where you might see or be part of injustice in your communities. If you see areas like this, talk with each other about what you can do to help change things.**

Give students time to talk, but check in with each group. After they have had sufficient time, bring them back together. Challenge your preteens to change their behavior this week in one of the ways where they have been part of something that is unfair or wrong.

- **What will you do to make things right this week in an area where you've treated others unjustly or wronged someone?** (Encourage [but do not force] volunteers to share after you lead by example. If some of your students don't have ideas, remind them that an "I'm sorry" note or card would go a long way in many cases.)

Close in prayer asking God for courage for you and your students to follow through on making things right this week.

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