

McGee and Me - 1

So Jesus said to those who had believed in Him, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 NIV

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23:5-6 NIV

He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. Luke 1:51-53 ESV

The Big Lie - Nick just started a new school and wanted to make a good first impression but every thing seemed to go wrong. Finally he made a friend when Louis saved him from Derek and the school bullies. Later when he fell into the basement of George Ravenhill's house Louis wanted to know the details about "Crazy George." Nick said things that weren't true to impress his new friend.

Have you ever said things to impress someone, even though you knew it could hurt someone else?

The Big Lie - Nick's lie started a chain reaction. Derek and the bullies vandalized George Ravenhill's house to get even with Nick. Even though he was innocent, Mr. Ravenhill was the one who was hurt the most. The other kids at school knew that Derek was going to vandalize the house again but no one stopped the bullies. Nick's lie hurt Mr. Ravenhill and in the end it hurt Nick, too.

Do you know someone who needs a friend? Are you kind to them?

Star In the Breaking - When Nick was chosen to appear on a popular game show he gained instant celebrity status at his school. As the time came closer to the day of the show he started to think only of himself, alienating friends and hurting his little sister. When he plays the game he loses badly. Nick is humiliated by losing to someone he thought he could beat easily.

Have you ever lost something that you thought you'd win? How did it make you feel?

Star In the Breaking - Even though Nick hadn't treated his family very well, they still loved him and encouraged him. The Bible tells us that God "*scatters the proud*" and "*exalts those who are humble*" in Luke 1:51-52. God doesn't want us to think that we are more important than other people. He wants us to live in peace and kindness with each other.

Do you have a bad attitude towards someone else? Ask God to forgive you.

The Not-So-Great Escape - The Bible tells us to not copy the wrong behaviors of the world but to follow God's way. When Louis wanted Nick to go to a horror movie Nick's parents didn't approve. Nick was angry when his parents refused to let him go. Although his parents were trying to protect him from filling his mind with negative things, all Nick wanted was to do the same things his friends were doing.

Does it make you angry when you don't get to do the things you want to do?

The Not-So-Great Escape - Nick decided to sneak out of the house and disobey his parents so that he could go to the movie with his friends. When Nick went to the movie he felt guilty for disobeying his parents. He had to lie to get into the theater. Then when he watched the movie it disappointed him and left him with images in his mind that he couldn't forget. In the end he wished he hadn't gone.

Have you made some poor choices in the past?

Dear Lord, we are tempted to think more about ourselves than we should. Sometimes we say things that are unkind to build ourselves up, not realizing that we can be hurting other people. Give us kind hearts. Help us to fill our minds with good things. Protect us from what is evil and hurtful. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.