



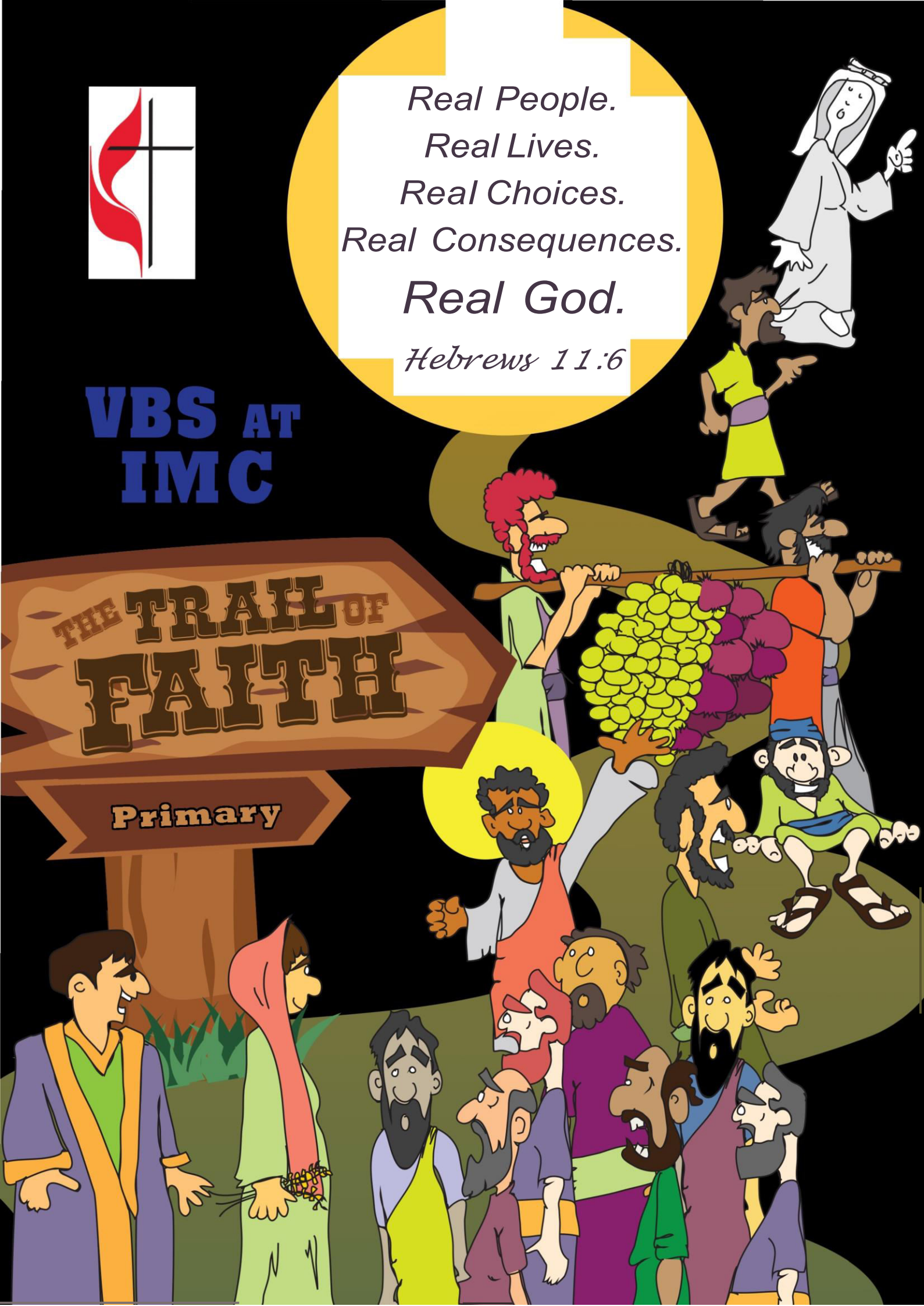
*Real People.  
Real Lives.  
Real Choices.  
Real Consequences.  
Real God.*

*Hebrews 11:6*

**VBS AT  
IMC**

**THE TRAIL OF  
FAITH**

**Primary**



# LESSON 3



## THE TRAIL OF MISPLACED FAITH

GOD (STILL) LOVES

*Scripture Passage: Mark 10: 17-27*

# The Rich Young Ruler

## MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy  
6: 5

*You shall love the Lord your God with all  
your heart and with all your soul and  
with all your might.*

## STORY

Wherever Jesus went, people crowded to listen to him. Parents brought their little children to see Jesus, so that Jesus could touch the children and bless them. The disciples wanted to give Jesus some rest after the long journey. So they asked the parents to go away. But Jesus stopped them and said, "Let the little children come to me. Do not stop them, for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them". Yes, the kingdom of heaven belongs to you, little children! Jesus took the little children in his arms, lay his hands on them and blessed them.

As Jesus made his journey from one place to another, a rich young ruler met Jesus and fell at his feet. He asked Jesus, "How can I go to heaven?" Jesus reminded him of God's commandments. The ruler said that he had been good and had kept all the commandments.

Jesus told him, "Sell all your property and give the money to the poor. Then you can go to heaven." The rich man was disappointed at Jesus' reply. How could he part with his wealth? He was doing good deeds for all to see. He was very pleased with all his good deeds and was praised by others. According to him, he was a righteous man. Was that not enough?

What does the Bible say about this? Samuel 16: 7: "The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

When the rich man was doing good deeds, he was doing so to get recognition from society that he was a righteous man, and not to please God. When he was asked by Jesus to give away all his wealth, he could not do it. That revealed the love for material things in his heart. He walked away from Jesus. Jesus knew what was in his heart and still loved the rich young man.

## SUMMARY

- The Kingdom of Heaven belongs to little children.
- The rich young ruler was a righteous man who kept all of God's commandments.
- The ruler did good deeds like helping the poor to please people around him.
- When Jesus asked the ruler to give away his wealth, he could not do so because of his love for wealth. He walked away from Jesus. This showed that he loved his wealth more than God.

## TEACHING

- **God loves you as you are.**
- **Do not think you can please God by doing good deeds alone. Put Jesus above everything else in your life.**