

Saint Thomas More: The Man Who Chose Truth

Faithful to God with a loving heart

Ages about 7-11 | Video 3:50 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Thomas More remains faithful to his conscience while his daughter Margaret struggles with his imprisonment and coming death.

Learning goals Children will recall More's love of family, explain a truthful conscience choice, and practice safe honesty.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask: What can make telling the truth hard? Watch how Thomas loves his family while remaining faithful to God.

Watch and notice

Notice reading with Margaret, refusal of the oath, prayer in prison, and the family's painful separation.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. How did Thomas show love to his children?

He read, talked, laughed, and listened to them.

2. Why would he not agree with the king's demand?

He believed it contradicted the truth about Christ and the Church, so he could not assent in conscience.

3. How did Margaret feel?

She wanted her father home and was deeply sad. Grief is understandable, not a failure of faith.

4. How can you practice truthful choices safely?

Admit a mistake, ask a trusted adult about a hard choice, or refuse to blame someone unfairly.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

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Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw Thomas listening to Margaret, then a safe truthful choice.

Read & Write Recall family love and conscience, then plan honesty in an everyday situation.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: discuss a simple pretend choice about admitting a spill.

Ages 9-11: explain that conscience needs formation and guidance, beyond whatever feels easy.

A truth-and-help plan | Optional 4 minutes

Read a pretend example: a game piece breaks and another child may be blamed. Write a truthful sentence and name an adult who can help repair the problem. Practice speaking clearly without blaming or boasting.

Look for understanding Children join truthfulness with love and adult guidance, and do not equate courage with seeking danger.

Closing prayer Jesus, help us love the truth and speak it with kindness. Guide our conscience and comfort people who are grieving. Saint Thomas More, pray for us. Amen.

At home Discuss a small honesty choice with an adult and practice a truthful sentence together.

Handout answer notes Family: reading, talking, listening. Refusal: conscience and faithfulness to God. Honesty: admit mistake and seek repair with an adult.

Teach with care

Preview imprisonment, Margaret's sadness, and execution mentioned without graphic detail. Allow passing; do not ask children to imagine losing a parent. The retelling greatly simplifies the English Reformation and dramatizes family conversations and scenes. It is not a transcript of Margaret's visits or a historical record of her presence at the execution. More's martyrdom is historical. Teach respect for Christians of other traditions and avoid reenacting punishment.

Words to explain Conscience: judgment about right and wrong, formed with God's truth and wise guidance. Martyr: a person killed for faithfulness to Christ. Integrity: words and choices agreeing with what is true.

Sources for the leader

Story source: [Servus Dei video and English subtitle](#)

Life and conscience: [Thomas More, patron of statesmen - John Paul II](#)

Truth spoken with love

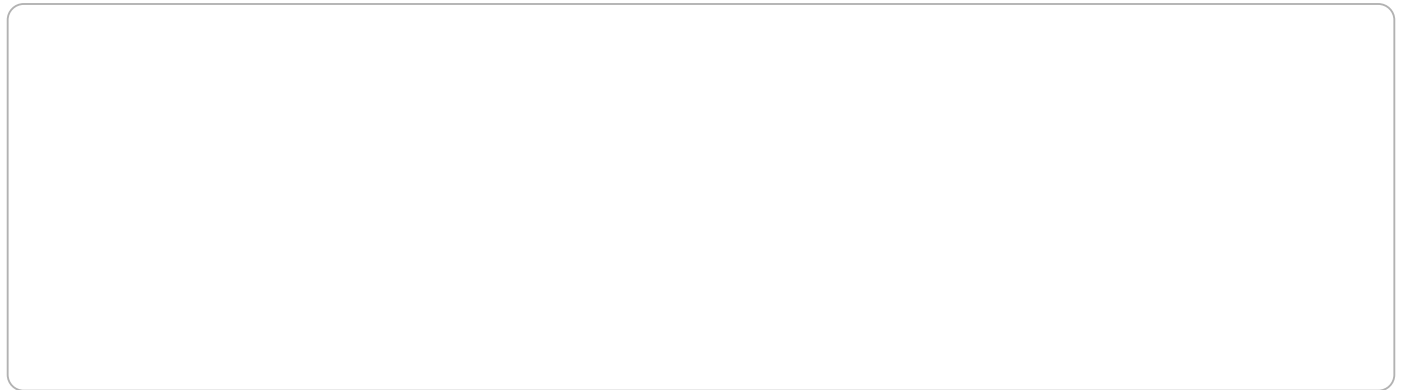
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Thomas loved his family and tried to remain faithful to God.

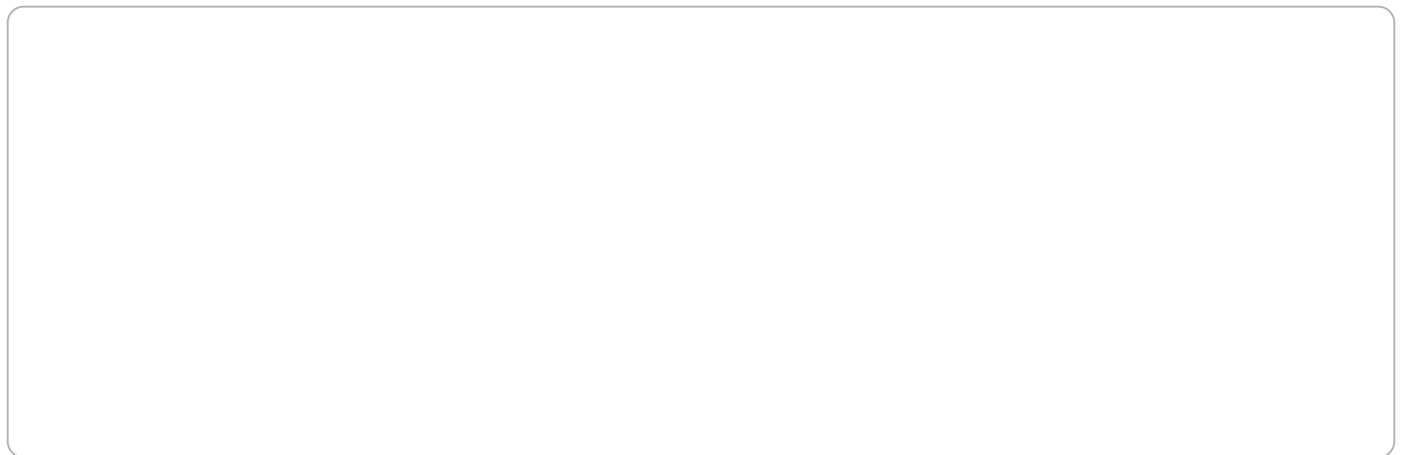
Name _____

Adult helper Read aloud. Invite drawing, pointing, or spoken answers. Writing is optional.

1 Draw Thomas reading or speaking kindly with Margaret.



2 Draw a safe way to tell the truth with adult help.



Tell Which truthful words could help someone? Who could guide you?

Pray Jesus, help me tell the truth with a kind heart. Amen.

At home Share your picture and one thing you learned about God or following Jesus.

A conscience worth forming

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Recall Thomas's family love and faithful choice.

Name _____

1 Remember family

Name one way Thomas showed care for his children.

Thomas ...

2 Understand conscience

Why did he refuse the king's demand?

He believed ...

3 Choose honesty

What could you say if you accidentally broke something?

I could say ...

Pray Jesus, help me tell the truth with a kind heart. Amen.

Go deeper Why do truthful choices need both courage and kindness?