MODUPE OLUSEYI | AGES 8-12

Faith Squad Book Club Guide

A Mystery with a Twist

Read the opening sample or the book before you meet. These questions are spoiler-free. Look up the Bible verses as you go and use what you read to think about what you'd do.

Read the opening sample

Discussion questions

1. A painting has been ruined at Bluegate High. What's one thing you know from the opening pages, and what's one thing you're guessing? How could you check your guess?
2. If one of the friends felt stuck, what could they ask God for? How might James 1:5 help with that? What could they do next while the answer to the mystery was still unclear?
3. Which of the four friends would you want beside you during a tricky part of the investigation? How might trusting God help the two of you take a brave step even while you're unsure?
4. Two friends disagree about what a clue means. Read James 1:19. How might it help them handle the disagreement? What could one of them say next?
5. Imagine a popular classmate says someone ruined the painting, and everyone believes them. What could you say to stick up for that person while the facts are still unclear? What might make speaking up hard?
6. Imagine you blamed a friend and found out you were wrong. Read Ephesians 4:32. How might it guide you as you put things right? How might it guide your friend's response?

The Missing Bookmark

A 10-minute mystery activity

A bookmark has vanished from the reading corner. A friend thinks Sam took it because they saw Sam near the shelf. Your team has three clues. Can you follow them and treat Sam fairly?

Pause before you begin (2 minutes). Look up James 1:5 together. What might your team ask God for before looking at the clues? If you'd like to pray, use your own words.

Investigate (5 minutes). Your clues are an open window, Sam's pencil on the shelf and a strip of gold ribbon sticking out from under the bookcase. In pairs, name one thing you know and one thing you're guessing. Write one question you could ask Sam to find out what happened.

One thing we know

One thing we're guessing

A question we could ask Sam

Make it right (3 minutes). After the group leader shares what happened, look up Ephesians 4:32. Imagine you'd already told another friend that Sam took it. In pairs, act out what you'd say to Sam, then have your partner play the friend you told so you can set the story straight. How did the verse guide what you said?

> **Facilitator note**
> Read this aloud after the group discusses the clues, just before the role-play. The gold ribbon belongs to the missing bookmark. The wind blew the bookmark under the bookcase, and Sam was there looking for a pencil.