

Life Principle: Honesty

The Story of Regulus

Rome and Carthage were two of the greatest cities of their time and bitter enemies. [Inevitably](#) war began, and they clashed in battle after battle for many years. Regulus, a Roman general was known for always staying true to his word, no matter what. Regulus lost a battle and was taken prisoner. Ill and lonely, he thought of his wife and little children with little hope of seeing them again.

The people of Carthage were afraid of being beaten and came to talk to Regulus in prison. "We'd like to make peace with the Roman people. We will set you free and let you go home if you will make it plain to them about the battles you have lost and that they gain nothing from the war. You must promise to come back here to prison if they will not make peace." Regulus gave his promise and they let him go, knowing he would keep his word.

His advice to the leaders was to continue the war as their army was gaining ground daily. They tried to convince him to stay and let them send another in his place, but he answered, "Shall a Roman not keep his word? I will go back as promised." He [bade](#) his family goodbye and went bravely back to prison and the cruel death he expected.

Audio of Story - [50 Stories Retold by James Baldwin](#) Scroll down to the "Story of Regulus" 4:55 min

[The Story of Regulus](#)

[Marcus Atilius Regulus](#) - historical background

[Honesty Choice Worksheet](#)

Step 1: Question Focus: "Honesty"

[Question Focus Technique Instructions](#)

Step 2: Produce Questions.

Rules for producing questions:

1. Ask as many questions as you can.
2. Change any statements into questions.
3. Write down every question exactly as stated.
4. Do not stop to discuss, judge, or answer the questions.

Step 3: Improve the Questions.

- 1) Identify open and closed-ended questions.
- 2) Change questions: select one question to change from open to closed-ended and one closed question to open-ended.

Example: *Closed to open*

What was the boy's response when the neighbors came to help?

What are some possible responses between the boy and the neighbors after each false alarm?

