

FORGIVENESS



Verse of the Month: Put up with one another.

Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone.

Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13 (NirV)

Bible Story: Please Forgive Me (The Story of the Lost Son) Luke 15:11-24

Bottom Line: Everyone needs to be forgiven

March 22, 2020

HIGH FIVE QUESTIONS

1. What has been the best part of this month for you?
2. What is your favorite thing about Spring?
3. What is your new favorite song?
4. How many times have you watched your favorite movie? What is it?
5. If you had unlimited money, what would be the number one thing you would buy?

WOULD YOU RATHER

1. Would you rather have to crawl or sprint everywhere you go?
2. Would you rather always have something stuck in your shoe or in your teeth?
3. Would you rather have a cell phone or a tablet?
4. Would you rather eat the lint from the dryer or drink the water from the washer?
5. Would you rather have to eat all the garbage at your house or never be able to get rid of the garbage at your house?

Opening Activity

✂️ SUPPLIES:

- No supplies needed

☰ HOW-TO:

- Invite your family to sit in a circle on the floor or at the table together.
- Work together to tell a story:
 - Begin the story by saying a few sentences.
 - The person to your right will add a few more sentences.
 - When you say, "Stop," the next person will continue the story.
 - Continue on around the circle.

**** STOP AND WATCH THE ["SO AND SO SHOW" VIDEO HERE](#) ****

Bible Story Review

✂️ SUPPLIES:

- Ball or bean bag

☰ HOW-TO:

1. Partner up with a sibling or a parent.

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2. Toss the ball or bean bag back and forth for as long as you can until someone drops it. The person who drops it will then answer a Bible story review question.
3. Continue playing until all questions have been answered.

SAY THIS:

BIBLE STORY REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who were the main characters in today's large group story? [**the dad and his son**]
2. Who was telling the story? [**Jesus**]
3. What did the son ask the dad for? [**money**]
4. What did the son do with the money? [**He wasted/spent it all.**]
5. Once the money was gone, what did the son eat? [**pig food**]
6. What did the dad do when the son came back? [**He ran to the son; he smiled and hugged the son; he threw the son a party.**]

Discussion:

- What are some things that kids your age might need to be forgiven for?
 - (Encourage responses, such as: telling a lie, disobeying my parents, yelling at my brother for messing up a video game, using my sister's stickers without asking, etc.)

Those are the kind of things we all do sometimes, and they're things we need to ask forgiveness for. Some of those things might also be done TO us, and we need to forgive the other person, even if we're angry and even if they don't ask for forgiveness. [**Bottom Line**] Everyone needs to be forgiven."

[Make It Personal] (Tell about a child-appropriate time when you made the decision to forgive someone even when it was hard. Tell how that grew your relationship with God.)

Bottom Line Review:

SUPPLIES:

- Masking Tape

HOW-TO:

1. Tape two lines on your floor. One straight line. One squiggly line. If you're out of tape you can use something creative.
2. Encourage your family to take turns walking on the lines and trying to balance without touching the floor where there's no tape.

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3. After each family member has had a turn, make it harder by challenging them to hop on one foot or jump along the lines.

SAY THIS:

"That was hard balancing on the lines. Sometimes you fell off or made a mistake. You and I make mistakes all the time—sometimes every day—just like the son in our story today made mistakes.

Was he forgiven by his dad? (Pause.) Was he forgiven by God? (Pause.)

"We can also be forgiven when we make mistakes. **Can anyone tell me about a time when someone forgave you?** (Encourage kids to share some stories about times someone forgave them. They may need some prompting. Maybe a family member forgave them for yelling mean things or for being disobedient. Or perhaps a friend forgave them when they accidentally broke the friend's toy.) It's such a great feeling when someone forgives us, isn't it? And it's also a great feeling when we forgive someone else. Let's remember that the next time we need to forgive someone. [Bottom Line] Everyone needs to be forgiven—and that includes you and me!"

Verse Activity:

SUPPLIES:

- Verse Coloring Sheet (New International Version of the verse)

HOW-TO:

1. Review the memory verse with the kids.
 - Put up with one another. Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13 (NIRV)
2. Explain that there are different versions of the bible. Read the New International Version (NIV) of the memory verse.
 - Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13 (NIV)

Let's talk about the version of this verse for a minute:

- What do you think it means to "bear with" one another? **[It means to put up with each other and to let stuff go easily without getting mad or frustrated.]**
- How about that big word "grievance" (pronounced "gree-vince")? Have you heard that word before? **[A grievance is when someone hurts you or makes you mad.]**
- What does this verse say about how God wants us to forgive? **[He wants us to forgive like HE forgives US.]**

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Print out a Verse coloring sheet for each child and let them color the New International Version of the memory verse.

Prayer Time

SAY THIS:

"Dear God, You are so amazing and wonderful. We thank You for forgiving us when we sin against You. Help us to also forgive others when they sin against us because [Bottom Line] everyone needs to be forgiven. We love You so much, and we pray these things in Jesus' name, amen.

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K-1st Grade

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