

DIY: Forgiveness is up to you

WEEK
THREE

MARCH 2020

GRADES
4-5

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

252 PRETEEN

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BIBLE STORY

Step by Step

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness
Matthew 5:1-2, 23-24

MEMORY VERSE

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, NIV

LIFE APP

Forgiveness—Deciding that
someone who has wronged
you doesn't have to pay

KEY QUESTION

What is keeping you
from forgiving?

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only
Create the Environment
Monthly Overview

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just For Fun
Get Your Head in the Game

25
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Communication
Prayer

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

"Alive" from *At the Top of My Lungs*
"Know You More" from *Can't Stop, Won't Stop*
"Good Good Father" from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 4*

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Extension
Discussion Questions
Verses to Take with You
Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

GodTime
Parent Cue

GETTING READY

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION**1. JUST FOR FUN**

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container
- Bucket
- Print the "Step Out Cards" Activity Page
- Roll of masking tape

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "First Step" Activity Page; one for every two kids
- Pencils

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

CHOOSE AS MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS YOU LIKE.

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT**[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]**

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Scenario Cards" Activity Page; one set for every three kids
- Roll of masking tape

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION**[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]**

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Paper squares, approximately 4.25" x 4.25"; one for

each kid

- Yarn, approximately 12 feet; one piece of yarn per kid
- Print the "Forgiveness Face" Activity Page
- Stapler
- Markers
- Stickers from the Take a Snapshot Activity

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]**

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU**[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]**

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Beach balls; two for each Small Group.
 - *Note:* If combining Small Groups or doing this as a Large Group Activity, provide a beach ball for each team.
- *Optional:* "Faces" from the Bible Story Extension Activity and markers

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER**[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]**

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through following guidelines and working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Uninflated balloons; one for each kid

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's GodTime and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app**.

BIBLE STORY

Step by Step

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness
Matthew 5:1-2, 23-24



MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

MEMORY VERSE

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, NIV

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, pray that your students would be able to see ways that they've hurt those around them and would have the courage to ask for forgiveness. Pray that God would give you eyes to see where students are connecting with the idea of tearing down walls of grudges and bitterness and would give you wisdom to know how to give them clear next steps.

LIFE APP

Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, "Step Out Cards" Activity Page, a bucket, masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Invite** kids to put their offering in the offering container as they arrive.
- **Divide** the group into two teams.
- Using masking tape, **create** a start and a turn-around line on opposite sides of the environment.
- **Line** up teams at the start line.
- **Put** the "Step Out Cards" in the bucket and **stand** at the start line with the bucket of "Step Out Cards."
- **Explain** that kids will compete in a relay race. To **play:**
 - When you say "GO," a kid from each team draws a "Step Out Card," which will tell them how they must "step" for their leg of the relay.
 - Kids read their card, return it to the bucket, and then race to the turn-around line and back to their team, moving in the style indicated on the card they drew.
 - When kids return to their team, they tag the next kid in line.
 - Once tagged, the next kid draws a card, reads it, and races to the turn-around line and back.
 - Once everyone has raced, the team sits down.
 - The first team to sit down wins.

KEY QUESTION

What is keeping you from forgiving?

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Step by Step

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness
Matthew 5:1-2, 23-24



CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

MEMORY VERSE

Put up with one another.
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you are holding something
against someone. Forgive,
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Colossians 3:13, NIV

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

WHAT YOU NEED: "First Step" Activity Page, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Pair** kids up.
- **Give** each pair a "First Step" Activity Page.
- **Tell** teams to make a list of what is wrong in the picture.
- **Encourage** teams to decide what would be the first thing they would fix.
- **Allow** teams time to share what they would fix first and why.

LIFE APP

Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

WHAT YOU SAY:

"There were a lot of things that needed to be fixed. Sometimes, when we are faced with a lot of options, it is difficult to decide what our first step should be. **[Transition] However, there is always a first step we should be ready to take. Let's head to Large Group to hear what it is.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD**
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY



CONNECT

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BIBLE STORY

Step by Step

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LIFE APP

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KEY QUESTION

What is keeping you
from forgiving?

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

WHAT YOU NEED: "Scenario Cards" Activity Pages, masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Divide** the group into teams of three
- **Give** each team a set of "Scenario Cards"
- **Create** a line with masking tape. On one end of the tape **write** the word "EASY" and on the other end write "HARD"
- **Encourage** teams to read each "Scenario Cards" and place the card on the tape to show whether it would be easy or hard to show forgiveness (or perhaps somewhere in between)
- **Facilitate** discussion on why teams place the cards where they did. **Discuss** the similarities and differences in the card placements.
- **Ask:** When is it hard to forgive someone? (*To prompt kids, ask: Is it easier to forgive someone you like or someone who annoys you? Or how do your feelings affect how easy it is to forgive someone? Is it easy to forgive someone when you are angry? What about if you have already forgiven them and they keep doing the same thing?*)

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK ABOUT GOD BIBLE STORY REVIEW

BIBLE STORY

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MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and
taps into the energy in the body

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, paper squares, stapler, yarn, scissors, markers, "Forgiveness Face" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Give** kids a Bible.
- **Read** Matthew 5:1-2 and Matthew 5:23-24.
- **Review** the verses. Potential questions to ask:
 - Who is Jesus talking to? (*his disciples, a crowd, anyone reading His Word*)
 - What does Jesus mean when He says, "And you remember your brother or sister has something against you?"
 - What does it look like to hold something against someone?
 - What is Jesus saying about forgiveness? (*It is important, you should not wait to show forgiveness, it offers peace, it fixes the relationship*)
- **Lead** kids to make a paper "face" to race.
 - To make the "face" use the directions provided in the Activity Page, "Forgiveness Face."
 - **Instruct** kids to decorate their "faces" by drawing an emoji that best represents themselves.
 - **Tell** kids their creations will represent themselves, pretending to "race" to forgive.
- **Pair** kids up.
- **Instruct** one kid to point his index finger to the ceiling. **Instruct** the teammate put the loop of yarn around their teammate's index finger.
- **Encourage** kids to practice racing their "faces" by pulling the ends of the yarn back and forth to move their "face" to their teammate's finger. For visuals, go to: <http://bit.ly/2t3XMI3> and <http://bit.ly/2RMpW4E>
- When everyone has had a chance to get the hang of it, tell the pairs to choose one person to be the racer and one person to be the holder.
- Line the teams up and, when you say, "Go," let kids race to see which pair can get their face to the top the fastest.
- Then instruct pairs to switch roles and run the race again!

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Colossians 3:13, NIRV

LIFE APP

**Forgiveness—Deciding that
someone who has wronged
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KEY QUESTION

**What is keeping you
from forgiving?**

BASIC TRUTH

**I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.**

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- When is it hard to forgive someone? What can keep us from forgiving someone?
- What are things people do when they hold a grudge?
- What have you learned that can help you to take the first step to forgive? How can knowing we are all created in God's image help you to forgive others?

HEAR FROM GOD MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY



PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

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KEY QUESTION

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I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

WHAT YOU NEED: Beach balls, markers, *optional:* the paper "faces" from the Bible Extension Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Divide** the group into two teams.
- Note: Depending on the size of your group, you may want to combine Small Groups. This would be a great Large Group Activity with multiple Small Groups competing against each other.*
- **Tell** teams to form a line, with each kid standing about two feet behind the kid in front of them.
- For each team, **give** the first kid in line a ball.
- **Explain** that teams will compete in a Memory Verse Relay. To play:
 - When you say "GO," the first kid for each team passes the ball "over" their head to the kid behind them. The next kid in line passes the ball "under" their legs to the next kid in line. Kids continue to pass the ball down the line over the head of one kid and through the legs of the next kid until the ball reaches the end of the line.
 - Once the ball reaches the end of the line, the team turns around facing the opposite wall.
 - Kids continue to pass the ball "over" and "under" until the ball returns to the first kid in line.
 - Once the ball returns to the first kid in line, everyone must sit down. The first Small Group to sit down wins.
- Play for a total of three rounds, as outlined below.
 - For Round 1: As each kid passes the ball, they recite the first sentence of the memory verse: *Put up with one another.*
 - For Round 2: As each kid passes the ball, they recite the second sentence of the memory verse: *Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone.*
 - For Round 3: As each kid passes the ball, they recite the third sentence of the memory verse: *Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you.*
- *Optional:* **Encourage** kids to write a few words of the memory verse on the back of their "face" from the Bible Story Extension Activity. **Suggest** kids to put their paper "face" on a door handle at their house, maybe a bedroom door or their front door as a reminder to "race" to forgive others.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

PRAY TO GOD PRAYER ACTIVITY



EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

BIBLE STORY

Step by Step

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Matthew 5:1-2, 23-24

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

WHAT YOU NEED: Uninflated balloons

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Gather** kids in a circle.
- **Hold** a balloon and **ask** kids to think of something they are holding on to that they need to forgive or something they have forgiven in the past.
 - After each example kids share, **blow** the balloon a little bigger.
 - Examples could include: Someone said something mean to you. Or someone said they would do something and they didn't follow through. Or maybe you got in trouble for something your sister did.

Note: Encourage kids to stick to listing minor grievances and annoyances, being careful not to let them "gossip" about friends they have in common, and making sure to be sensitive if you have any kids who are currently in or have been in difficult and more serious circumstances.

- **Explain** God doesn't want us to hold on to anything that keeps us from forgiving someone; God wants us to let go of anything we are holding against someone. (**Let go of the balloon.**)
- **Give** kids a balloon.
- **Tell** them to blow up the balloon, and as they do, **encourage** them to silently tell God about what they maybe holding on to that they need His help to let go of.
- When their balloon is inflated, tell them to hold it closed while you **pray**:
 - "God, You are amazing! You sent Jesus so we could have Your forgiveness no matter what we've done. God, when we are hurt or angry it is hard for us to forgive. Often the first step we need to take is to tell You how we feel and trust You will help us to put up with each other and let go of what we are holding against someone. Help us to forgive as You forgave us; help us to take the first step. Amen."
- **Tell** the group to let go of their balloons.
- *Optional: Suggest* kids remember this balloon activity and when they need to let go of something they are holding against someone to take the first step and tell God about it, asking for His help to let it go.