

PARENT CORNER

weekly

TODAY: MARCH 26

Bible Story: Mercy, Mercy Me (The Story of the Unmerciful Servant)
Matthew 18:21-35

Big Idea: Forgive others because God forgives you.

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 (NIRV)*

Life App: Forgiveness – deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay.

Bible Story Summary:

Read and meditate on Matthew 18:21-35

In Matthew 18:21-35, Jesus told this parable because Peter asked a question about forgiveness. Peter might have thought he was doing pretty well to say he'd forgive someone seven times, but Jesus raised the stakes and said we ought to forgive others even more. Jesus showed what this meant with a parable about a servant who was shown incredible forgiveness yet wouldn't offer forgiveness to someone else.

Our Big Idea is... **Forgive others because God forgives you.** God's love for us is huge. That love drives God to forgive us when we do something wrong. God can help us to forgive people in our life too. When we realize how much God has forgiven us, we can turn around and forgive people who might hurt us. This might be difficult, but God can give us the help we need to love others and show forgiveness.



As your kid starts their day, discuss something that can be done to show someone else kindness today, even if the person is not always nice. Tell your kid something you will do today too. Then, at the end of the day, make a point to talk about how it went!



DAY 1

READ "Forgive other people when they sin against you. If you do, your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you." *Matthew 6:14*

When someone hurts you, how does it make you feel? Hurt? Angry? Frustrated? If you're not careful, those feelings can take over. But God wants you to remember that He has forgiven YOU. Remember, God sent His only Son, Jesus, so that you could be forgiven of your sins.

That means that God wants you to treat others the way HE treats you. That's why if someone hurts you and then says they're sorry, you should forgive. God loves you and He wants good things for you, including good relationships with others. Since God forgave you, you should forgive others.

Grab a piece of paper. Write down someone's name on the page that you need to forgive. Then fold up the page into a paper airplane. Once you've followed through and forgiven that friend, send that airplane soaring as high as you can.

KNOW that God has forgiven you and with His help, you can forgive others too.

DAY 2

READ "Peter came to Jesus. He asked, 'Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you not seven times, but 77 times.'" *Matthew 18:21-22*

Grab a piece of paper and write "I forgive you" as many times as you can in one minute. Ready, set, go!

How many times did you write it? _____

Peter asked Jesus, "How many times should we forgive someone? Seven times?" "Nope, seventy-seven times." That's a lot, isn't it? What if I lose count? Well, that's exactly the point. Jesus wanted Peter to stop counting and simply choose forgiveness instead.

The truth is that no one wants to be friends with someone that always keeps score. Who would want to hang out with a person that constantly points out your past mistakes or refuses to forgive? So don't be that friend. When someone does something wrong and asks for forgiveness, forgive them. Don't keep track. Whether it's the first time, or the seventy-first time, choose forgiveness.

ASK God to help you forgive as He's forgiven you.

DAY 3

READ "Be kind to and tender to one another. Forgive one another, just as God forgave you because of what Christ has done." Ephesians 4:32

When it's hard to forgive, it's good to remember the promises we find in God's word. This verse is a great one to memorize. Because there will be a time this week when someone does something that makes you mad or sad or hurt. And in that moment, you could remember the words of this verse to help you choose forgiveness.

Make up motions to this verse to help you memorize it. Say it over and over with the motions. Then, teach it someone else in your house! Learning this verse will help you choose forgiveness.

LOOK for opportunities to be kind and forgiving.

HEY PARENTS SIGN HERE!

Have a parent sign your completed GodTime.

Parent signature

Date

Return for 5 Bible Bucks!

parent CUE:

Want to know what your child is learning at church? Download a free app called Parent Cue. This app is put out by The reThink Group who writes the curriculum we use in Uptown as a guide to what our kids learn.

Parent Cue has parenting articles, blogs, and ways you can live out your faith at home. Week by week you will be given cues so you can make the most of your time with your kids for God.



DAY 4

READ "If you do not judge other people, then you will not be judged. If you do not find others guilty, then you will not be found guilty. Forgive, and you will be forgiven." Luke 6:37

God asks us to forgive again and again. We can ask God to soften our hearts toward the person who we need to forgive, and to give us the strength to really forgive them. Personalize this prayer using the name of someone you know you need to forgive. If there's no one that you feel you need to forgive right now, ask God to give you a forgiving heart.

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be my Savior so I could be forgiven. I know that I need to forgive others too, including _____ . It is hard to forgive them for _____ , so I need your help. Please soften my heart toward _____ and give me the strength and humility to truly forgive _____ from my heart. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen."

THANK God for forgiving you again and again.

at a GLANCE



Bibles N Bucks Shopping:

- April 16 Kindergarten
- April 23 Fourth Grade
- April 30 Third Grade
- May 7 Second Grade
- May 14 1st Grade



Child's Name: _____