



Lesson 48

2s & 3s

THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

July 18 & 19

GOD FORGIVES



LESSON GOAL:

Background: Peter asked Jesus how often he should forgive. Jesus said, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times" and goes on to tell the parable of the unforgiving servant. The story was about a servant who was forgiven a huge debt by his master, but then refused to forgive someone else who owed him a small amount. The master was upset because the servant did not show the same mercy and forgiveness he had received from the master.

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that God has forgiven each of us in a big way by sending Jesus to rescue us from our sins. Because of this gift of grace that we don't deserve, God wants us to forgive others too!

Matthew 18:21-35

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

AWANA clubber registration is live!
Wednesdays @ 6:15pm starting Sep 16
at RR, WH, MO and DT!
woodmenvalley.org/awana



KEY VERSE:

*"Finally, let the Lord make you strong.
Depend on his mighty power."*

Ephesians 6:10, NIRV

MISSION FOCUS:

ACTS School Lunch Donations

Have you ever struggled with being hungry? It can make us feel tired, sad or worried. There are many kids in our city who are facing this challenge - they don't have enough food.

We can help! When we donate snacks, we're not just giving food — we're showing God's love to kids who need encouragement and care.

LET'S PRAY FOR THE KIDS WHO WILL GET THESE FOOD ITEMS:

Pray for them to feel loved & their hearts to be open to hearing about Jesus

Pray for their families



5:45-6:10pm
8:45-9:10am
10:45-11:10am

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.



WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.

SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

(Insert parent name), do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? *(Respond accordingly)* Enjoy service!

DO:

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.



FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.

DO:

As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

Examples:

- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

6:10-6:25pm
9:10-9:25am
11:10-11:25am

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



MAKE: Forgiveness Door Hanger Craft

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: Door hanger paper, crayons/markers



SAY:

Today's story is about how God forgives us and wants us to forgive others. Jesus told a story to help people understand that because God forgives us in a big way, we can forgive others too. When we remember how much God loves and forgives us, it helps us show forgiveness to others!



DO:

Have kids color and decorate the door hanger. Encourage them to hang it somewhere they'll see it and remember to pause and ask God to help them forgive others.



CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by discussing the Big 3 questions.



SAY:

Answer THE BIG 3 questions to help kids prepare for the lesson

1. Who is our story about today?

Jesus, Peter and us

2. What is the problem?

Peter asked Jesus how many times we need to forgive others

3. What will God do?

Jesus told a parable of the unforgiving servant to help His followers understand that we are to forgive others always and often.



CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.



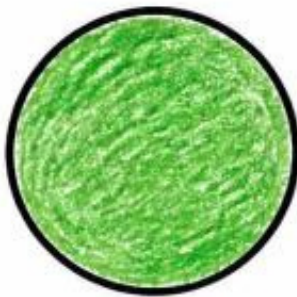
SAY:

Let's all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

Sing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."



Craft Example



**GOD
FORGIVES!**

MATTHEW 18:21-35



PAUSE!

**IS THERE SOMEONE I NEED
TO FORGIVE TODAY?**

6:25-6:40pm
9:25-9:40am
11:25-11:40am

LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God through Worship, an engaging Bible story and a time of response.



EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video
(Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s)



SAY:

We're glad to be at church today.
We will listen, we will pray.
We'll sit quietly in our spot.
We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!



DO:

PRAY before transitioning to worship.



WORSHIP

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class.
To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

SONG 1: My God is So Big

SONG 2: Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord

SONG 3: Jesus Loves Me



BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.



WORSHIP RESPONSE

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

Supplies: heart stickers (1 per kid), Jesus poster

God forgives! Even when we make bad choices, God loves us so much that He will forgive us when we come to Him! ***Invite kids to close their eyes and think about if there's anything they need to tell God about and ask forgiveness for. Then, invite kids to take a heart sticker and put it on the poster as they say "God forgives me!"***



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

May you know that God is loving and forgiving. You can always run to Him!

BIBLE STORY

Hamilton's Prop: ripped paper heart



INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.



SAY:

Hi Hamilton! **Hamilton looks sad, holding a ripped heart.** What's wrong, Hamilton? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** Oh no, your friend ripped your special heart craft? **Hamilton nods and looks angry.** Hamilton, I think today's Bible story might help you know what to do. It's about how God forgives us! Do you want to join us? **Hamilton nods.** If you're ready to hear our Bible story, can you wiggle your ears with me? **Wiggle ears together.** Let's dive in!



BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your curriculum folder as you read the story.



SAY:

One day, one of Jesus' good friends, Peter, asked Jesus a big question. He said, "How many times do I need to forgive someone?" Do you know what the word forgive means, friends? **Let kids respond.** Forgiving someone means when they do something bad or wrong to us, we choose to not be upset and be kind and loving instead.

Jesus answered Peter's question, "You should forgive others many, many, many, many times!" Then, Jesus told a special story called a parable. It went like this:

There was a man who owed the king lots of money. It was too much to pay back! The man was very sad and worried. He asked the king to be patient with him. The king was kind and said, "I forgive you! You don't have to pay me back!" The man was so happy! But then, that same man saw someone who owed him a little bit of money. He demanded the other man pay him back!

Even though this man had been forgiven, he didn't forgive the next person. That's not what Jesus wants us to do! Jesus wants us to forgive others because God has forgiven us!

Hamilton, do you know what you should do now? **Hamilton nods and whispers in your hear.** That's right. Since God has forgiven you for when you do bad things, you can forgive your friend for ripping your heart craft! We can forgive others because God forgives us!

6:40-6:55pm
9:40-9:55am
11:40-11:55am

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the students remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing simple motions to help them remember the phrase.



SAY:

Today our God statement is **God Forgives!**

Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.



DO:

Use simple hand motions to help kids remember the God Statement as you say it together.



ACTIVITY- "Oops! It's Okay!"

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the students can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: Soft blocks or toys



SAY:

Today we learned that God forgives us and wants us to forgive others too. Sometimes people make mistakes or accidentally hurt our feelings, but we can choose kindness and forgiveness.



DO:

Invite kids to gently knock over a block tower or make a small pretend mistake while playing together. Encourage kids to respond with kind words like, "It's okay!" or "I forgive you!" Continue practicing forgiveness and kind responses as a group.

6:55-7:10pm
9:55-10:10am
11:55am-12:10pm

EAT & PLAY

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.



SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.



DO:

- Play “I Spy” focusing on color, shape, and letter recognition
- Freeze Dance
- Duck, Duck, Goose
- Hot Potato
- Charades
- Odd One Out Game
- Hokey, Pokey
- Popcorn Parachute Game
- Read a book or a story out of picture Bible
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing

As parents
arrive after
service

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



DO:

Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.