

Work in Progress: Redo, Rewrite, Restore

Use this guide to help your family
learn why forgiveness is important.

First, watch
this week's
video!

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

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

Bible Story

A Woman Anoints
Jesus' Feet
Luke 7:36-50

Bottom Line

Everyone needs
forgiveness.

Activity

Fingerprint Forgiveness

What You Need:

Washable markers in various colors, white paper, wet wipes or a soapy washcloth to clean up (*optional*)

What You Do:

Invite your child to do an activity with you. Instruct them to choose five marker colors—one for each finger. Then assist them in coloring each of their fingertips a different color. As they color each finger, help them press their fingers down onto the paper to create five unique fingerprints.

Then, do the same for yourself! Compare your fingerprints to your child's fingerprints. You can even make an illustration out of the fingerprints by turning them into butterflies, bees, or people!

When you're finished, say, "Look at how unique our fingerprints are. Did you know that if we asked everyone we knew to do this same thing, none of our fingerprints would be the same as theirs? No two people have the same fingerprints. God gives *everyone* a special and unique fingerprint. In our Bible story today, we talked about something else that God gives all of us."



Talk About the Bible Story

In today's story, what did the woman do to honor Jesus? (*She washed His feet with her tears and then poured perfume on them.*)

What did Jesus do for the woman? (*He forgave her sins.*)

What does God offer to everyone? (*forgiveness*)

What does it feel like when you've done something wrong, and you know you need forgiveness?

How do we ask God for forgiveness? (*prayer*)

How many times will God forgive us? (*as many times as we ask*)

Parent: Share appropriately about a time when YOU needed forgiveness and you learned that God would forgive you, no matter what. How did it feel to know you were forgiven?

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, You are an awesome, mighty, LOVING God. Thank You for (your child's name) and for the forgiveness You offer to us. Help us accept that forgiveness and be willing to forgive others, too. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

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Key Question

What does it feel
like to be forgiven?

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Activity

Flush with Forgiveness

What You Need:

3-5 squares of toilet paper; a marker

What You Do:

Give your child the marker and toilet paper and explain that you have a fun way to show what forgiveness is like.

Explain some simple, relatively light examples of things you might need to forgive (i.e. someone at the last cookie, someone used your stuff without asking, someone said something mean to you without thinking). Ask your child to draw some simple pictures on the toilet paper that represent those situations.

Then, instruct your child to go to the bathroom, crumple up the paper, and flush it down the toilet to symbolize what it means to forgive someone.

Talk About the Bible Story

In today's story, what did the woman do to honor Jesus?
(*She washed His feet with her tears and then poured perfume on them.*)

What did Jesus do for the woman? (*He forgave her sins.*)

What does God offer to everyone? (*forgiveness*)

Do you find it hard to forgive someone when they've done something wrong toward you? Why or why not?

How does it make you feel when you choose to forgive someone else?

What does it feel like when you've done something wrong, and you know you need forgiveness?

What does it feel like to be forgiven?

Why does everyone need forgiveness?

Parent: Share appropriately about a time when YOU needed forgiveness and you learned that God would forgive you, no matter what. How did it feel to know you were forgiven?

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, thank You for today's reminder that everyone needs forgiveness. Please help our family to forgive those we need to forgive, and ask for forgiveness from those we've hurt. Give us Your strength to handle difficult situations. Thank You for being there for us. We know we can always come to You and rely on You for help. We love You, God. Amen."

