

Forgiveness is deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay.

Read: Psalm 86:5



DAY

1

Forgiven

Have you ever forgiven someone before they even asked to be forgiven? Sometimes the ones we love most don't even have to ask for forgiveness before we forgive them! Think of someone in your life that you easily forgive. Make up a song or dance to tell them how you forgive them and put on a show!

LOOK for chances to forgive others.

DAY

2

Always Forgiven

God will always forgive you when you ask. Draw a picture or write a story about a time that you needed forgiveness from God.

ASK for forgiveness when you need to.

DAY

3

Forgiving and Good


Look up Psalm 86:5. Make up motions to go with the words in the verse. Doing this will help you think about the verse when you need to remember that God is always good.

KNOW that God is good and forgiving.

DAY


4

I Believe in Forgiveness



When you believe that God is good and forgiving, you can start to grow your relationship with God. Be thankful for all of the times God has forgiven you. If you want to know more about God's gift of Salvation, ask a trusted adult or your Small Group Leader!

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"Dear God, Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus to earth. Thank You for always being good to us. Please forgive me for the times I don't choose what's right. I pray that I can always forgive others like You forgive me. Especially when it is hard. I love you. Amen"



God will always forgive you.



# **Forgiveness is deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay.**

## DAY 1

### **Read Psalm 86:5**

Have you ever messed up really badly? Whatever the situation and whatever the mess up, there's good news. God doesn't choose to forgive some things and not others. God forgives all things.

Grab a piece of paper and draw a large heart in the center of the page. Write the words of this verse in puffy letters and then decorate your heart any way you choose. Put your heart next to your bed as a reminder this week that when you ask, God will forgive you.

## DAY 2

### **Read 1 John 1:9**

Jesus came to earth so that we can be forgiven. When you trust Jesus as your Savior, you become a part of God's family forever. Following Jesus doesn't make you perfect. You'll still mess up and need to ask God and others for forgiveness. Thankfully, when you ask, God will always forgive you.

To confess means that you admit when you're wrong. You let God know how you know you messed up. When you're honest with God, it helps you feel connected to God.

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### **Fill it in**

Fill in the blank with what's missing.

"But God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will ..... our sins. He will ..... every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure."

1 John 1:9, NIV

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Remember, God always forgives us.

### DAY 3

#### Read Psalm 130:4

Who is the “you” in this verse? Who forgives? God!

And who can you serve with respect? God!

Because God forgives us so completely, God deserves all our respect and honor and praise.

#### Decode the Verse

Use the key to fill in the blanks below.

“ .....  
 6 11 17 ..... 16 14 11  
 .....  
 1 14 19 7 5 13 10  
 .....  
 15 14 12 10 4 2 9  
 .....  
 15 10 19 13 10 16 14 11  
 .....  
 12 5 17 3 ..... 19 10 15 8 10 4 17  
 .....”

Psalm 130:4

|        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| A - 2  | B - 6  | C - 4  | E - 10 | F - 1  | G - 7  |
| H - 3  | I - 5  | M - 8  | N - 9  | O - 14 | P - 18 |
| R - 19 | S - 15 | T - 17 | U - 11 | V - 13 | W - 12 |
| Y - 16 |        |        |        |        |        |

“But you forgive. So we can serve  
 you with respect.” Psalm 130:4, NIV

### DAY 4

#### Read Luke 15:21-24

In this story Jesus told, the son dishonored his father in every way. But when he decided to go home and beg for forgiveness, what did his father do? He ran toward his son! Instead of anger, the father called for a celebration. He chose to restore his son to the family. This is what God does for us!

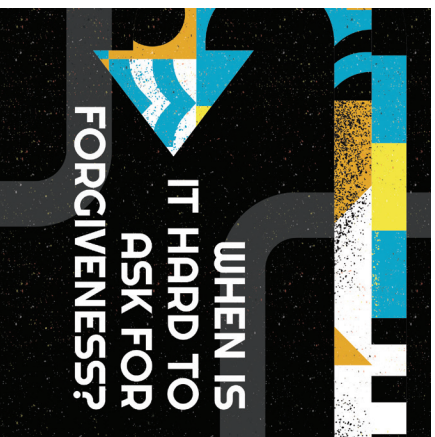
When you need forgiveness, picture God running full speed toward you!

Grab some paper and a pencil. Draw the son on one side, scared of what he might face. Then draw the father on the other, running to embrace him. Write “God will always forgive you” along the top of the page to remind you of God’s great love for you.

God will always  
 forgive you.

# Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent..



**WHEN IS  
IT HARD TO  
ASK FOR  
FORGIVENESS?**

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March  
2023

**Week Four**  
4th-5th



# Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

**1. You liked:**

Watch this week's episode of  
The So & So Show by going to:  
<https://bit.ly/PreteenSundaysatHome>

## 2. You learned:

Even if you already saw it at church,  
feel free to check it out again!

### 3. You'd like to know:

## A Devotional on Forgiveness.

FOR AN  
**everyday faith.**

## Day 2

Read **Luke 15:11-32**

In verse 18, the son admits to the father what he did. Look at the verses above and underline everything the son did that was wrong, starting with asking for his inheritance while his father was still alive!

Now, circle everything the father says and does to celebrate his prodigal son's return.

It must have been really, really hard for the son to return home, admit all that he had done wrong, and ask for forgiveness. He must have been surprised when not only does his father forgive him but also restores him to his place as his son and throws a big party to celebrate!



## Day 3

Go **back** and **re-read Luke 15:18-19** and **21**.

The prodigal son's request for forgiveness was pretty intense. Not only did he apologize for what he had done wrong, but he also offered to come back home as a servant instead of a son. But there was no need for that, because as soon as the father saw the son on the road, returning home, the father began running toward him, ready to forgive.

What do you need to ask God for forgiveness for? If there is something weighing heavy on your heart or mind, personalize the prayer below and ask God for forgiveness.

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"Dear God, I am sorry that I

I know I don't deserve Your forgiveness, but you give it to me anyway. Thank You for sending Jesus so that I can be restored as Your child, just as the prodigal son was accepted back into his family. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen."

Day 4

The father in this week's story not only forgave his son, but he also threw him a big party!

Find a friend and celebrate that God will always forgive you.

Meet up for ice cream, invite a friend over, or come up with an idea of your own—that will allow you to celebrate God's forgiveness. (Of course, remember to get a parent's permission.)

While you're hanging out enjoying the "party," talk with each other about forgiveness using these questions. Start by asking your friend if they're familiar with the story of the prodigal son, and if they're not, give them a quick overview.

- Which brother can you relate to more?
- Do you think one brother needed forgiveness more? If so, which one, and why?
- How does it make you feel to know you can be forgiven?
- When do you find it hard to ask forgiveness?
- How do you feel after you've asked for forgiveness?

Day 5

When is it hard to ask for forgiveness?

Grab a backpack or other bag and empty it.

Think about a time when you've needed to apologize, but what you had done wasn't that big of a deal. Pick up something small and light to represent that and place it in the bag. Put the bag on your back and walk around.

Now imagine asking someone to carry that bag for you. It wouldn't seem like that big of a deal, right? It's not super heavy, so it doesn't feel like you're asking for a lot, which hopefully makes it at least a little easier to ask for forgiveness.

Now imagine something really hard to ask forgiveness for—maybe the worst thing you could imagine doing. Find something really heavy and place it in the bag. As you walk around, think of how it would feel to ask someone to take that bag from you? It might feel like you're imposing. But it also would be a huge relief to take a break.

Sometimes it will be hard to ask God for forgiveness—but remember, God will forgive you. God will take your load off and make you wonder why you ever tried to carry it yourself!

