

March 22

Jesus Wants Us to Know He is Forgiving

Core Truth: Jesus Wants Us to Know Him

Text: Matthew 18:21-35; Romans 6:23; Romans 3:23

Lightbulb: Jesus Wants Us to Know He is Forgiving



ACTIVITY: "Is that forgiveness?"

Supplies: None Needed

Read the following scenarios to your kiddo. Tell them to listen closely and if the story demonstrates forgiveness, have them stand up. If the story does not show forgiveness, then have them stay sitting down.

Scenario 1: Johnny and Karen are brother and sister. Karen is playing around in the kitchen and she bumps the counter and immediately something falls to the floor. As she looks down, she realizes that it is Johnny's phone and the screen now has a huge crack across it. Karen feels so bad and knows that Johnny is going to be mad. She grabs the phone and walks to Johnny's room to tell him what happened. Johnny looks at her and tells her it is okay and that he knows it was an accident. (Remember to have kids stand for forgiveness and sit if not.)

Scenario 2: Naomi and Sarah are best friends who are playing outside together. They are running up and down the street playing tag. As Naomi is running toward Sarah to tag her, she pushes a little too hard and Sarah falls down and scrapes her knee. Sarah doesn't cry or seem hurt, but she gets up and yells at Naomi for playing too roughly and storms back to her house in a rage. Even though Naomi didn't mean to hurt Sarah, Sarah was still super mad and refused to continue playing with Naomi.

Scenario 3: Logan and Brandon are best buds whose favorite thing to do is play video games together. One night, while they're playing video games, they decide to take a break to go get a snack. As they come back from their snack break and Brandon runs to the restroom, Logan notices that Brandon did not eat his whole cookie. Logan decides to eat the cookie because he doesn't think Brandon will be mad about it. When Brandon comes back, he asks where his cookie went. Logan tells him he ate it because he thought Brandon was done. Brandon looks upset for a second but then turns to Logan and tells him it is okay, he will just go get another cookie.

Discussion:

- Was it easy to tell when forgiveness was shown in the scenarios?
- How many times does Jesus tell us to forgive others? (70x7)
- Does Jesus literally mean to forgive others 490 times? (No, He just means to keep forgiving them like Jesus keeps forgiving us.)
- What does it mean to forgive? (It means to cancel or to release from a debt.)
- Read the following scripture from the lesson again.
The payment for sin is death. But God gives us the free gift of life forever in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23
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- What does the Bible say that we deserve because of our sin? (Death or eternal separation from God.)
- Can you remember what sin is? (Anything that we say or do (or think) that is against God.)
- Jesus wants us to know that He has forgiven us from our sin, so do we have to worry about it anymore? (No! Once we ask for forgiveness, Jesus wipes it all away.)

Real-Life Application

Parents, please take some time to talk with your kiddos about Jesus' forgiveness and why we need it. Make sure to have them write down their two sins, pray for forgiveness and then to throw them away because Jesus doesn't hold them against us anymore.