

Forgive

Drop the Rocks



Ephesians 4:32 IV

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Prayer Point Focus

Leader's Lesson Overview

- Remember to ask the Holy Spirit to help you teach the lesson.
- In the Lord's Prayer, Forgiveness is the second part of Repentance.
- Unforgiveness to others blocks God's forgiveness to us.
- Unforgiveness is like rocky soil for the plant of God's spirit. The hurts (rocks) keep His Spirit from being healthy and strong.
- Holding onto grudges and hurts weigh us down and keep us from feeling joy.
- Forgiveness allows us to grow to be like Jesus.
- Drop the rocks at the foot of the cross. Jesus forgives us when we forgive others and ourselves.

Preparation

Talking to the King - Forgive



Come Into His Presence

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 4:32

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Review previous scriptures

SONGS

- Any previous songs
- Veggie Tale Forgiveness Song
- _____
- STORY
- Unforgiving Servant

Kingdom Kid Pledge

I'm a Kingdom Kid
and I'm here to say,
I'm living my life
in a brand new way!

I repented of my sins
and asked Jesus in my heart.
He's living here inside
and His love is off the charts!



Enter the Gates (opening prayers)

Pray a group prayer of praise. Something like, "Father, you are a good father! We thank you for this day. You are good/ holy/ mighty..." Let the kids fill in their own words to the prayer.

Remember that repentance is important. You might also encourage the children to use the scripture "Create in me a clean heart O God..." to ask for forgiveness before other prayers.

Prayers for the Church and Community

- Continue praying for the church, pastor, members, etc.
- _____

Prayer Requests and Praise Reports

Instead of asking for prayer requests, tell the kids to pray it, not say it. If they have a prayer need, just pray it and others can also pray about it. Continue to encourage those who are shy. Continue to encourage specific prayers.



5. Prayer Point: Forgive

Say the Lord's prayer together focusing on Forgiveness.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven (I)

Hallowed be thy name. (Praise)

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth,

as it is done in heaven. (Yield)

Give us this day, our daily bread (Ask)

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive

those who trespass against us. (Repent)

And suffer us not to be led into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. (Ask)

For thine is the kingdom (Yield)

and the glory and power for

ever and ever. Amen. (Praise)

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Skit interrupts...

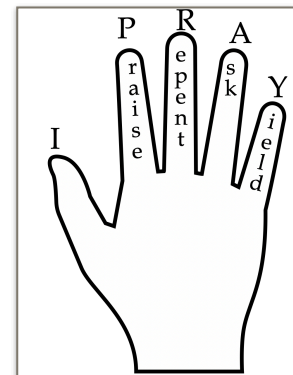
I - Who are we praying to (Our Father)
and who am I? (His beloved child)

P - Praise

R- Repent and Forgive

A- Ask (supplications)

Y- Yield



Forgiveness Skit

FORGIVENESS Skit

Characters

1. Child (seen)
2. GOD (unseen)

Stage Setting

- No particular setting is necessary, but it is good if the Child could sit on a chair and lean on a table that has a Bible on it.

Child: *“Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name.” God, you are loving and generous. You made the whole world and everything in it, including me. Thank you for loving me so much!*

GOD: *You’re welcome.*

Child: *“Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.”*

GOD: *Keep going.*

Child: *“Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us...”*

GOD: *Whoa. Back up.*

Child: *How far?*

GOD: *The forgiveness part.*

Child: *But, I thought we already talked about that.*

GOD: *We talked about part of it.*

Child: *Only part of it?*

GOD: *Yes. It has 2 parts.*

Child: *Oh okay. Here goes . “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.”*

GOD: *That’s right. Do you know what that means?*

Child: *Ummm. ...Let’s see... “as we forgive those who trespass against us”...I’m not sure.*

GOD: *It means that I can’t forgive you if you don’t forgive others.*

Child: *What? But you are God! You can do everything!*

GOD: *Not everything. I gave people choices. Remember?*

Child: *Oh yeah.*

GOD: *Jesus has already paid the price for your sins, but, if you hold rocks in your heart, your heart isn’t soft and your spiritual plant can’t grow in rocks.*

Child: *Rocks?*

GOD: *Rocks, stones, boulders.*

Child: Wow, that sounds heavy.

GOD: It is. When you hold grudges and don't forgive people it can be so heavy that your shoulders bend down and you can't feel joy.

Child: First I had bugs in my heart and now rocks.

GOD: But the bugs and rocks don't have to stay.

Child: They don't?

GOD: No. Just forgive others.

Child: But they were mean. They don't deserve my forgiveness!

GOD: You are right, they don't.

Child: So, you agree with me. Then, why should I forgive them?

GOD: Do YOU deserve MY forgiveness?

Child: Well, I guess not.

GOD: Do you want to have joy? Do you want your spiritual prayer plant to be healthy?

Child: Yes. But...I don't know if I can forgive them. Can you help me?

GOD: Of course. All you have to do is ask!

Child: So, how exactly do I ask?

GOD: Which hurt would you like to get rid of?

Child: All of them!!

GOD: Now you're talking! But, sometimes you're not ready to let go of everything at once. Let's focus on one to practice.

Child: Okay. My brother made fun of my nose last week and I am still mad at him.

GOD: Are you ready to forgive him? It's not fun carrying that rock around in your heart, is it?

Child: No, it's not fun.

GOD: Then just tell me you forgive Him and ask me to bless him.

Child: It's that simple?

As we forgive those who trespass
against us



Lord, I forgive ____.

Please bless them.

(Don't forget to forgive yourself!)

GOD: It is if you mean it. Sometimes you have to say the words and then the feelings of forgiveness come later.

Child: Ok. Here goes. Lord, I forgive my brother for being mean. Please bless him and please help us to not be mean to each other.

GOD: Done! You are forgiven.

Child: Really?

GOD: Now, doesn't it feel better to not have that rock to carry around in your heart any longer?

Child: Yes! It does! Thank you God! You are wonderful!

GOD: You are welcome.

Sometimes it's really **hard** to forgive people who have hurt us. It's not easy.

These illustrations might help.

- Scripture stories: Joseph forgives his brothers <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndETu4bzwAY>
- Pockets Full of Rocks <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2014/02/pockets-full-of-rocks?lang=eng>
- Corrie Ten Boom - maybe a retelling of this story. This might be better for older children or those who have gone through hard experiences. <https://youtu.be/3cfp5ivLZb4>
- This is an object lesson on forgiveness. <https://youtu.be/p4W9cBEBJQI>



Suggested Activities

Rock Relay



Use river rocks to do a relay or some kind of activity where one rock is added at a time. Maybe carrying a bag and picking up a rock at the other side of the room and bringing it back, each child adding a rock each time.

Demonstrate how it gets heavier and heavier.

Discuss what happened during the relay and how it relates to forgiveness.

Practicing Forgiveness

Can you think of a rock in your life? Maybe someone hurt you. Maybe you are still angry with them. Maybe something bad happened and you blame someone, yourself or even God for it.

Pretend to hold that rock in your hand right now. Name that rock. Which hurt is weighing you down? Can you lay that rock down at the feet of Jesus?

Do you remember what Jesus said while he was on the cross? They had put him through horrible torture and here He was on a cross to die. He said, "Father, forgive them." If Jesus could forgive them and us, we can forgive others.

Let that rock go, tell the Lord you forgive them, ask forgiveness for holding it and bless them! You will receive blessings in return!!

(Young children are much better than teens and adults about not holding grudges or collecting stones. But, the 10-12 year olds, might be able to relate to this.)

Kindness Rocks

Turn some rocks into Kindness Rocks and give them to others. Take them to a park or somewhere that people can find them. Paint encouraging sayings on them and share them.

<https://www.thekindnessrocksproject.com/>

Here is what we did: <https://www.kingdomkidsontheirknees.com/blog/kindness-rocks>

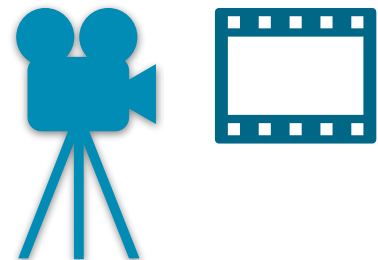


Challenge

- Next time a movie starts playing in your head about something that hurt you, that's a rock. It's hurting you and others around you. It makes you feel heavy inside.
- Confess it to God. Say, "God, this really hurt me. But, I know you don't want me to have rocks in my heart. Can you help me to forgive them?"
- When you are ready, forgive them and ask God to bless them. Luke 6:28

Throw that rock away and try not to pick it back up!

You will feel so free and light!





Forgiveness Scriptures and Songs

Ephesians 4:32



And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

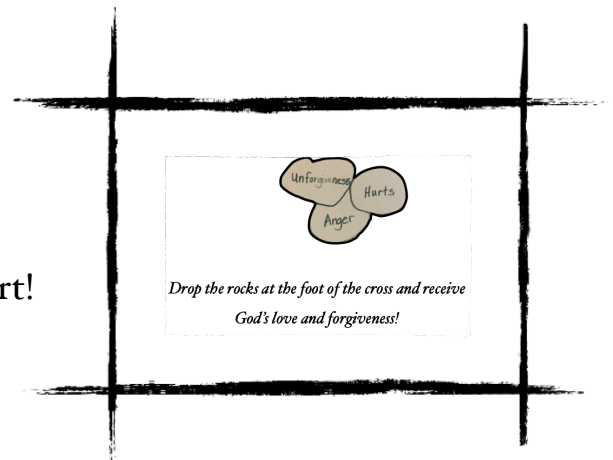
The Forgiveness Song

You know that in love we can forgive
It is the only way to live
Obey God and see that we can live in harmony!

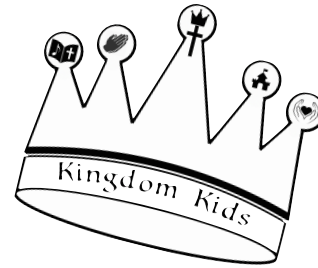
Since God has forgiven us, it's true
You forgive me, I'll forgive you
I'm gonna start to show forgiveness from my heart!

You know that in love we can forgive
Hey man! It is the only way to live
Obey God and see that we can live in harmony!

Since God has forgiven us, it's true
You forgive me, I'll forgive you
I'm gonna start to show forgiveness from my heart!
So do your part, and show forgiveness from your heart!



Prayer Points for Parents



Hello Parents!

Today at Kingdom Kids we talked about forgiveness.

In the Lord's Prayer it says

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

- Unforgiveness to others blocks God's forgiveness to us.
- Unforgiveness is like rocky soil for the plant of God's spirit. The hurts (rocks) keep His Spirit from being healthy and strong.
- Holding onto grudges and hurts weigh us down and keep us from feeling joy.
- Forgiveness allows us to grow to be like Jesus.
- This is really hard. Check out the K Kids Parent's Page for ideas.

Scripture Memory Verse

Ephesians 4:32

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K Kid Challenge

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