

WEEK
ONE
JULY 2025

SMALL GROUP
2-3

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Think It's About... Forgiveness

Forgive One Another/
Jesus Forgives Peter
Colossians 3:13

(Supporting: John 13:36-38; 21:1-19)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Forgive one another.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had.

Romans 15:5, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Live It Out—Discover how to love like Jesus

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSzi> for a visual on some of the activities.

Check out our Small Group Leader Conversation Guides to guide you through salvation conversations: <https://bit.ly/4daxSUg>

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Bible Story
Bottom Line
What's Our Part in the Story?
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

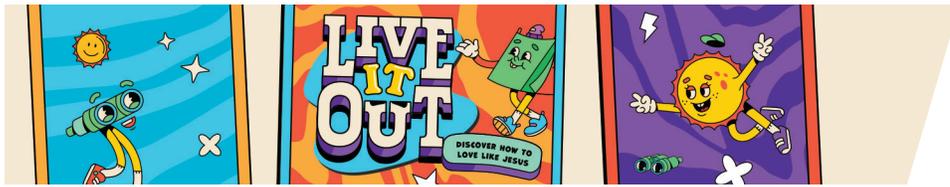
25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Quick to Forgive
Application Activity: Path to Forgiveness
Memory Verse Activity: Live It Out Motions
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
15 MINUTES**

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



Pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for sending Jesus. Express your gratitude for Jesus and how He forgives us the moment we ask. Recall a time when someone forgave you. How did it feel? Ask God to help the kids choose to forgive one another. When it feels hard for them to forgive, ask God to help remind them of Jesus' love and forgiveness for them.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Think It's About... Forgiveness

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(Supporting: John 13:36-38; 21:1-19)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, cardboard boxes, safety scissors, and markers; optional: kid's cardboard tool kit

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids as they arrive by name and with a high five or fist bump!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Explain to the kids that they will work together to build and design camp cabins.
- Encourage groups of 2-3 kids to work together.
- Set out several cardboard boxes, safety scissors, and markers.
 - *Optional: provide a kid's cardboard tool kit to enhance the building experience.*
- Encourage creativity as the kids draw and design the camp cabins differently.
- Assist the kids with building their camp cabins as needed.
- Use the following questions to spark discussion with your group while they work:
 - "If you could go to any kind of camp, what would it be and why?"
 - "What's your favorite summer activity?"
 - "Have you ever been to a camp? If so, what kind of camp?"

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Forgive One Another.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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Romans 15:5, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Live It Out—Discover how to love like Jesus

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding



2. PATH TO FORGIVENESS [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, "Forgiveness Path" Activity Page, pens (or pencils), and coloring supplies

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Live It Out—Discover how to love like Jesus

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Give each kid a "Forgiveness Path" Activity Page and a pen (or pencil).
- Instruct the kids to write their names on the page.
- Set out the coloring supplies for the groups to share.
- Explain to the kids that they will complete a forgiveness adventure!
- Refer to your own "Forgiveness Path" Activity Page as you ask the following questions and prompt them to do the following.
 - "Think about a time someone hurt you. Tell God about it. Draw a picture in that first box to tell God about it." (*Give the kids a few minutes to draw.*)
 - "How did it make you feel?" (*Lead the kids to circle the feelings that apply to them in prompt 2.*)
 - "Do something that helps you feel calm." (*Point out the "Do something that helps you feel calm" section, read it to the kids, and give the kids a few moments to draw their response.*)
 - "What helps you remember that Jesus forgives you?" (*Direct the kids to the fourth circle. Read the section. Point out the QR code for the Orange Kids Music song: "Lift My Voice" and ask the kids to have a parent help them scan it at home. Also, look up the 1 John 1:9 in the Bible and help kids fill in the blank.*)
 - "Remember this . . ." (*Point out the "Remember this . . ." section and read it to the group.*)
- Direct the kids to the last box.
- Encourage the kids to write or draw how it makes them feel to know that Jesus forgives them no matter what!
- If the kids need more time, give the kids more time to fill out their "Forgiveness Path" Activity Pages.
- Once they're finished, encourage the kids to share what they wrote and drew with the kid(s) in their group.
- Explain to the kids that they can use the prompts on this sheet at home to help them navigate forgiveness.
- Invite the kids to decorate their page using the coloring supplies.
- Encourage the kids that God can handle all of their big feelings and wants to help them **forgive one another!**

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Forgiveness isn't always easy, and sometimes we're not sure what to do. But guess what? We don't have to figure it out alone. God sends the Holy Spirit to live with us and guide us when we choose to follow Jesus!



WEEK
ONE
JULY 2025

SMALL GROUP
2-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"We can ask God to help us forgive and focus on Jesus' love for us.

"I want to encourage you to use this Activity Page throughout the week! When forgiving someone feels tough, remember that God is with you and wants to hear all about it. Remember Jesus forgave us first, so we can work to forgive others. Trust God to help you navigate those feelings and help you **forgive one another!**"



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



3. LIVE IT OUT MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, and "Verse Motions" Activity Page

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Think It's About... Forgiveness

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Jesus Forgives Peter
Colossians 3:13

(Supporting: John 13:36-38; 21:1-19)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Give each group a Bible.
- Direct them to look up this month's Memory Verse, Romans 15:5 using the Bible Navigation tips below.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Forgive One Another.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Romans in the list under "New Testament." When the kids find Romans, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Romans. Help the kids find the page. When they find Romans, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 15. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 5 in chapter 15.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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Romans 15:5, NIV

- Recite the verse together several times.
- Teach the kids Memory Verse motions from the "Verse Motions" Activity Page
- Repeat the verse motions with the kids several times.
- For a challenge, invite the group to perform the verse motions without your direction!

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Way to go, friends! You all memorized our verse this month SO fast. Basically the verse is saying this: God loves to help and encourage us! And, God wants us to do the same for others. God wants us to treat others with kindness and patience, just like Jesus did.

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Live It Out—Discover how to love like Jesus

"So, if someone messes up or hurts your feelings, you can choose to forgive them instead of staying upset. It doesn't mean that you let someone keep hurting you (you should talk to a grown-up if that happens!). But forgiveness is a choice we can make that changes everything! It frees us from feeling bitter and thinking about it all the time. We show others what Jesus is like when we **forgive one another!**"

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding



4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Index cards, and pens (or pencils)

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Think It's About... Forgiveness

Forgive One Another/
Jesus Forgives Peter
Colossians 3:13

(Supporting: John 13:36-38; 21:1-19)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Give each kid an index card and a pen (or pencil).
- Explain to the kids that you will give them a few moments to think of someone they need to forgive.
- Direct the kids to write that person's name (or draw a picture of them) on their index card.
- Give the kids a few moments to pray to God and ask for help to forgive.
- Share with kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere!

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Forgive One Another.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, for all of us. Thank You for loving us and forgiving us—no matter the mistake! Please help us all 'Live it Out' and **forgive one another** just like You forgive us. Help us boldly go out this week and share Your love and kindness with the world around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had.

Romans 15:5, NIV

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show off their "Forgiveness Path" Activity Page. Share with the adults that kids can use this page to remind them who Jesus is, help them navigate forgiveness, and love like Jesus!"

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Live It Out—Discover how to love like Jesus

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.