



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Forgive One Another
Jesus Forgives Peter
Colossians 3:13

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What makes it hard to forgive?

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
Just for Fun
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 (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect
Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

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 PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



Before kids arrive, take a couple of moments to pray for your students. Pray for them one by one name, asking Jesus to give them the courage and strength to forgive those who have hurt or disappointed them. Ask God to give you wisdom to help you navigate any hurt or pain they may reveal.

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1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, small whiteboards, dry-erase markers, paper towels, timer

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids with a smile as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Divide the kids into groups of two. It's okay if you have a group of three.
- Give each group a small whiteboard, a dry-erase marker, and a paper towel to clean their whiteboards.
- Direct the groups to select a kid to start and hand them the whiteboard and dry-erase marker.
- Explain how to play:
 - Each kid will take turns writing or drawing something on their board. This could be a word or a random doodle.
 - At the start of each kid's turn, the leader will set a timer for one minute.
 - After one minute, the kid who is drawing must stop and pass the whiteboard to the other kid.
 - That next kid will erase what's on the board completely, creating a "clean slate" for them to draw.
 - The leader will set the timer again and cue the kids to begin drawing.
- Set the timer for 1 minute and instruct the groups to begin.
- Play until each kid has had at least two turns.
- Ask:
 - What did it feel like to erase what was on your board?



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment



1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Large craft sticks, "Voting Paddles" Activity Page, scissors, glue sticks, and "Would You Rather" Activity Page

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WHAT YOU DO:

- Give every kid two large craft sticks, scissors, and one "Voting Paddles" Activity Page.
- Make the glue sticks available.
- Instruct the kids to cut the "X" and the canoe apart on the dotted line.
- Tell the kids to glue each image onto a popsicle stick. Make sure they leave room to hold the sticks.
- Explain that they will use the paddles to vote on "Would you rather.." questions.
- Kids can respond to each question by:
 - Holding up the canoe paddle if they would rather forgive.
 - Holding up the X paddle if they would rather have the other choice.
- Read a question from the "Would You Rather" Activity Page.
- Encourage the kids to hold up their chosen paddle to vote.
- After every kid has voted, lead a discussion about that scenario.
- Continue reading the scenarios, allowing time for voting and discussion after each one.
- Create a safe space for kids to share their thoughts without swaying them one way or another.
- **[Make it Personal] Share an age-appropriate example of a time you chose to forgive when it was hard. What made it hard to forgive? Has someone ever forgiven you? Share how that felt.**
- Share with kids that choosing to forgive doesn't mean you let someone keep hurting you. They should tell a grown-up they trust if this keeps happening.
- Forgiveness is a choice we can make every day, and making that choice frees us from getting bitter and helps us live more like Jesus.



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



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

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WHAT YOU ASK:

- What makes it hard to forgive?
- Use a Bible to read Colossians 3:13b. What do you think this verse means?
- Despite all that Peter had done, Jesus forgave him. What does that teach us about how we should forgive others?
- Can you think of a time when someone forgave you for something you did? How did it feel?

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WEEK
ONE
JULY 2025

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Empty bag or backpack, sticky notes, pens or markers

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WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle with you.
- Set the empty bag in the center of the circle.
- Give each kid a sticky note and a pen or marker.
- Invite the kids to think about this question quietly:
 - "Is there someone you need to forgive?"
 - *This could be a sibling, teacher, coach, friend, etc.*
- Encourage the kids to use the sticky note and a pen or marker to write that person's name.
- Once every kid has written a name, direct the kids to fold their sticky notes to keep the names private.
- Instruct the kids to place their folded sticky notes into the bag.
- Share with the kids that just like we placed the sticky notes in the bag, we can remember to give God all of our big feelings when we pray!
- Gather the group around the bag.
- Lead your group in a prayer, asking God to help each kid in your group choose to forgive others. Ask God to help them focus on how Jesus loves them and forgives them all the time.
- Thank God for the opportunity to forgive and ask for guidance as the kids work through forgiving others.