

Student Make-Up Work
January 29 - Lesson "Forgiveness"

Parents this make-up work should be done together with you and your student. There will be questions to discuss verbally and question to answer in written format. Please sign the bottom of the sheet and return to the sermon note drop off box.

Main Idea: Forgiveness is a gift of God through Grace, and we are called to share that Grace with others.

Question: What is sin? Why do we need forgiveness? How we show God's grace to others?

Discuss with Parent

Read the Fifth Petition of the Lord's Prayer and its meaning.

What are the two parts that make up this request?

Forgiveness - Discuss with Parent and write out responses

What does forgiveness mean to you?

Lewis B. Smedes, a renown Christian author and theologian said,
"To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you."

What do you think this means?

Discuss with Parent

Is it easy to forgive? Why or why?

What is our first response when someone has hurt us?

Do we have to forgive?

Scripture and Write responses

Read Matthew 5: 38 - 42. What does Jesus say about forgiveness here?

Read Matthew 5: 43 - 48 What does Jesus say about how to treat others that have sinned against you?

Read Luke 23: 34 How does Jesus live out this example of forgiveness?

Read Matthew 18: 21 - 22 What if the same person hurts you over and over again? Do you still forgive?

How many times should one forgive the same person?

Media

Watch clip & discuss questions with parents

Forgiveness by Matthew West

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9J6xOT3Ldw> - video and song

Do you think you could have forgiven the person who took the most loved and important person in your life away?

What is the difference between Consequences / Punishment vs. Forgiveness?

Is it more challenging to forgive yourself or to forgive others? Why?

“As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison.” - Nelson Mandela

What does this quote mean to you? What does it say about forgiveness?

Prayer

Think about a person you need to forgive. Insert their name in this prayer. If you have more than one name to pray, say this prayer as many times as you need.

Heavenly Father,

I don't feel like forgiving. I don't even want to forgive _____ (person's name). He (She) has wounded me and crushed my spirit. You are witness to my pain and my suffering. I don't know why I had to go through this. But, Your Word commands me to forgive. I want to obey you and do what You say, because You are my God, who means everything to me. And even though I have no warm feelings within me, I choose to forgive. I forgive _____ (person's name) and set him (her) free. I no longer hold anything against him (her). Please forgive me for harboring bitterness and anger in my heart for so long. I have sinned against You and I am sorry. In Your Word (Matthew 5: 44) You have said, "Love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!".

Once you have said this prayer aloud, believe God has forgiven you. Do not worry about your feelings. You may not feel any special warmth in your heart for that person, but don't worry. You have done the right thing by forgiving.