

FORGIVENESS

Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

parent
cue

MEMORY VERSE

"Put up with one another. Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you."
Colossians 3:13, NIV

WEEK

1

The Lost Sheep

Luke 15:1-7

BOTTOM LINE:

God forgives you.

WEEK

2

Lost Son

Luke 15:11-24

BOTTOM LINE:

Everyone needs to be forgiven, even me

WEEK

3

Older Brother

Luke 15:21-32

BOTTOM LINE:

When you don't forgive, you miss out.

WEEK

4

77 Times/Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18:21-35

BOTTOM LINE:

Since God forgave you, you should forgive others.

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MORNING TIME

Make a paper chain with your family. On each chain link write something that is hard to forgive. Each morning discuss one idea on the chain and how it could affect each of you if you didn't forgive. Then celebrate the power of forgiveness by cutting the chain link.



DRIVE TIME

Sometime this week while you're in the car, subway, or walking your kid to school, think of ways you can fill in this blank, "I need to let go of ____." Just like holding on to weights or carrying heavy books in a backpack, having something heavy that needs to be forgiven can really weigh you down. So it's best to let it go and forgive so you don't miss out.



MEAL TIME

Ask a kid: Who has had to forgive you the most? What do you usually need forgiveness for?

Ask a parent: What is the most you've ever owed someone? How would it change your life to have them say you don't owe them anything?



BED TIME

Read Luke 15:1-7 as a family. Each think about something that you would be really upset about if you lost or misplaced and think about how long you would search for that item. In the Bible, God tells us that whenever we get lost or need forgiveness He will always come a search for us . . . for as long as it takes. We are His prized possession that He wouldn't want to lose. As a family, thank God for always searching for you and finding you when you're lost.



PARENT TIME

We all know what it's like to repeat ourselves over and over when kids or people aren't listening. But one saying that never gets old to hear repeatedly is, "you're forgiven." God asks us to offer never-ending forgiveness because that's what He's done for us. And offering forgiveness takes practice. It can be hard to offer forgiveness at the end of a long day or after a fight, but when we don't forgive we can miss out on what God has ready for us. Challenge yourself to be eager to forgive.

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