

TEACHING GUIDE

AUGUST 2, 2020
SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES
PASTOR KAYLA HURST

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:21-35

SYNOPSIS

Parables are short stories that teach a moral and/or spiritual lesson by analogy or similarity. Jesus told them so his audience would recognize their own life experiences in the stories and be able to internalize the truth he was trying to convey. In today's parable, Jesus answers a question about forgiveness.

Forgiven People...
Forgive People.

Forgiveness is minimizing

Forgiveness is forgetting

Forgiveness is reconciling

Forgiveness does not forgive justice

How many times should ... eventually a lion

Download the Weekly Reading Plan + Discussion Guide for more!



WEEKLY READING PLAN

Week of August 2, 2020

1 Ephesians 4:30-32

2 Matthew 6:9-15

3 Colossians 3:12-17

4 Proverbs 17:9

5 Romans 12:17-21

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

• WEEK OF AUGUST 2, 2020 •

WARM UP

Describe a time when you found freedom by forgiving someone who wronged you.

READ

Matthew 18:21-35

ASK

What is the main point Jesus was trying to convey (hint: it's the *why*)

How does the story relate to us now

How easy or difficult is it for you to forgive others (what is hardest)

Discuss these points:

Forgiveness is minimizing the offense.

Forgiveness is forgetting.

Forgiveness is necessarily reconciliation.

As Peter said, it only takes one person to forgive. It takes two people to reconcile. Reconciliation requires the offender to repent, make restitution and rebuild trust.

How do you forgive someone even if they don't care to reconcile

Is there anywhere that you need to take these steps where you have hurt someone

How does this passage and others (Mark 1:1-15; 3:1-6; Matt 11:25) tell us that forgiveness is more than just a nice idea or good self-help too

RESPOND

Gratitude frees us to forgive - multiply God's grace with yours this week.

PRAY

FAMILY GUIDE

Spend some time with your kids talking about today's parable

TALK

- Tell me about the last time you had to forgive someone. Was it easy or hard?
- **Read:** Matthew 18:21-35
- How many times does Peter think we need to forgive?
- How many times does Jesus say we need to forgive?
- Do you need forgiveness sometimes?
- Tell me about the last time you were forgiven. How did it make you feel to be forgiven?

How Many Times?

Ask:

How many push-ups can you do? Sit-ups?

How many times can you say "4 fine fresh fish for you" perfectly?

Can you do these things 490 times?

(Let them try - you can add your own activities, too)

Say:

It's hard to do *anything* 490 times, even forgiving someone!

PLAY

CREATE

Clean Heart:

Supplies needed:

- Activity Page (next page)
- Scissors
- Crayon

Cut out the heart. Have them hold the heart down as they color across the heart to cover it all up extending onto the background paper.

Say: *When you choose to forgive people your heart will stay clean - even when the hurt is all around.*

Pull the heart off the paper to show a clean heart.

**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 (NIRV)

CUT OFF HERE

