LESSON 13 "FORGIVENESS" (page 1)

Reserved to the second second

BIBLE CONNECTION

Matthew 18:21-35 (page 1051)

CHARACTER WORD

<u>Forgiveness</u> – Treating someone as though he or she never hurt me

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

Because God has <u>forgiven</u> me, I can <u>forgive</u> others.

MEMORY LINK

1 John 1:9a

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to <u>forgive</u> us our sins." (KBC Study Bible pg. 1355)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Index cards, pens Option 2: Memory Link cards, balloon

BIBLE CONNECTION Copies of script

SURF TEAM LEADER Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME Option 1: Sports cone, small balls Option 2: None

Jesus Teaches When to Forgive

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Do you find it difficult to <u>forgive</u> someone when they hurt you? What if they hurt you over and over again? Does it get easier to <u>forgive</u> after each hurt? No, it's hard to <u>forgive</u>! Did you know that <u>forgiveness</u> is treating someone as if they never hurt you?

In today's story, Peter questioned Jesus about when to call it quits and stop forgiving. Peter expected there to be a limit on how many times we must forgive. However, Jesus' answer was radical. In the Jewish "eye for an eye" culture, Jesus rocks Peter's world by telling him to never stop forgiving. Matthew 6:14 says, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." God's forgiveness is generous. He forgives us over and over again. Aren't you glad that God's forgiveness never runs out? Psalm 86:5 says, "For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You."

GET CONNECTED



Building relationships in surf teams; introducing today's lesson

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

Pass out Memory Link cards, index cards and pens.

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the kids in your Surf Team and to introduce today's lesson.

- Tell about a time when someone hurt your feelings. How hard was it to <u>forgive</u> that person?
- Tell about a time when you had to ask for forgiveness.
- The Memory Link today tells us that God is faithful. He always <u>forgives</u> us when we tell Him we are sorry. How does that make you feel?



Guide clubbers to locate and mark today's Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

WORSHIP TIME



Pointing hearts toward God

Consider using the song "In Your Power" from Lifeway VBS (Amazing Wonders Aviation). Explain that the best way to live like God wants us to live is through His power. We can <u>forgive</u> others with His help and through His power. Another great song to use for this lesson is "Like Jesus" by Jeff Slaughter. This song says that no one else has been like Jesus. It is a slow worshipful and reflective song.

MEMORY LINK

2 Minutes – Teaching the Bible verse to clubbers 8 Minutes – Activity to help them memorize the verse

No supplies needed

Focus on Today's Memory Link 🛄

Today's Memory Link is found on page 1355 in your KBC Study Bible in 1 John, chapter 1, verse 9a. Who would like to volunteer to read the verse while the others follow along? This verse tells us that if we confess our sins – that is to acknowledge, admit to God we have sinned or to ask for <u>forgiveness</u> – God will <u>forgive</u> our sins. We don't have to earn that <u>forgiveness</u>. It is freely given. Since God grants us <u>forgiveness</u> freely, how should we grant <u>forgiveness</u> to others? (freely)

Option 1 – ORDER UP

Index cards, pens

Assign a word or two of the verse to each clubber in your surf team and instruct them to write their word(s) on an index card. Ask the clubbers to hold their word(s) in front of them and line up with the others in the team to put the words in order. Once in order, ask them to say the verse. Then ask the clubbers to switch their card/words(s) with another clubber and repeat. For an extra challenge, tell kids to hide a few of the words and try to say the verse with the words missing.

Option 2 – SAY IT PROUD

Memory Link cards, balloon

Give each clubber a Memory Link card. Guide your surf team to stand in a single file line, arm's length behind the student in front of him. Instruct the first child to say the first word of the verse while passing the balloon between his feet to the student behind him. Instruct the second child to say the second word as he passes the balloon over his head to the next student in line. Continue as each child says the next word and the clubbers alternate between passing the balloon under and over until the entire verse is recited, including the scripture reference. Continue playing until time is called. LESSON 13 "FORGIVENESS" (page 2)

1 John 1:9a

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to <u>forgive</u> us our sins." (KBC Study Bible pg. 1355)

Bible 101 📖

1 John is in the New Testament. It is the fourth from the last book of the Bible. Turn to 1 John on page 1355. Find the Bible Explorers section at the top of the page. Read that section with a clubber sitting in your surf team. (Allow time to read.) How did John know what to teach us about Jesus? That's right! He was there! He saw and heard Jesus with his own eyes and ears.

BIBLE CONNECTION



Teaching today's Character Word through a gospel-centered Bible story

Four copies of the script

Set the Stage

Jesus used short stories called "parables" to teach a valuable lesson. Often when someone asked Him a question, Jesus would illustrate the answer with a short story to help the listeners understand the spiritual truth. In today's story from Matthew 18:21-35, found on page 1051 in your KBC Study Bible, Peter asked Jesus a question. Listen to the parable, or short story, that Jesus told to help us understand more about <u>forgiveness</u>.

Tell the Story

- Narrator: Peter came to Jesus and said,
- Peter: Lord, when my friend sins against me, how often should I forgive him? Up to seven times?
- Narrator: Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to 70 times seven." Then Jesus told a story to illustrate his point. He said, "Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants." A servant who owed the king lots of money was brought before him. The servant was not able to pay so the master said,
- Master: (pointing to the servant) "You and your whole family will be sold to pay for the debt!"
- Narrator: Then the servant fell down before him and said,
- Servant 1: (fall down at the Master's feet and beg) "Master, give me some more time and I will pay you all I owe."
- Narrator: The master was moved with compassion and released him and <u>forgave</u> his debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him some money and he grabbed him by the throat and said,
- Servant 1: (slowly say with anger in your voice) "Pay me what you owe!"
- Narrator: Then the fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him saying,
- Servant 2: (falls down in front of Servant 1 and begs) "Give me some more time and I will pay you all I owe."
- Narrator: But the first servant would not give him more time he went out and threw him in prison. So when the other servants saw what had been done, they told the master all about it. The master called the servant to him and said,
- Master: (say with anger as you point to the servant) "You wicked servant! I <u>forgave</u> your debt because you begged me. You should have the same compassion for your fellow servant."

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As You Prepare

You can always read or tell the story in a dramatic and exciting way. For today's story, consider communicating through drama. Narrate the story and ask your surf team leaders or older clubbers to play/read the parts of Peter, Master, Servant 1 and Servant 2. Give the readers a copy of the script at the beginning of KBC so they have time to look over it before Bible Connection time.

Narrator: The master was angry and sent him to be punished until he could pay his debt. When Jesus ended the story He said, "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not <u>forgive</u> his brother his trespasses."

Dismiss the actors as you finish the lesson.

Application

So, what was the answer that Jesus gave to Peter? (Forgive seventy times seven times) But it wasn't about the number Jesus gave. He meant that we should forgive over and over and over... as many times as needed. Did Jesus say that we should forgive only if the person deserves it? (No.) We should forgive just like God forgives us – freely. Think quietly about someone you need to forgive. Or maybe you need to ask someone to forgive you. Take a moment and pray silently, asking God to help you with forgiveness.

Gospel Connection

Did you know that every one of us has sinned before God? We have chosen our way, not God's way. Because of that sin, we are separated from God. There is nothing we can do on our own to be united with God again. But there is good news! When Jesus died on the cross, He took the punishment you and I deserve. Because Jesus took our sin on Himself, we have a chance to be forgiven.

1 John 1:9a says that when we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to <u>forgive</u> us our sins. Receiving God's <u>forgiveness</u> is as simple as ABC. ADMIT you are a sinner and ASK Jesus to <u>forgive</u> your sin. Next, BELIEVE that Jesus is God's Son. Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life and died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sin. Then CHOOSE TO FOLLOW Jesus and make Him the boss of your life.

Invite children wanting to know more about becoming a Christian to move to the designated counseling area to talk with a leader one on one.

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Gospel Tip

Rely on the Holy Spirit to guide you as you explain the <u>forgiveness</u> found in today's story. God is faithful and will continue to draw the child to Himself until that child understands His offer of <u>forgiveness</u>. It is important that we not rush a child's response to this good news. Our job is simply to tell the message of the gospel and allow God to work.

SURF TEAM TIME



LESSON 13 "FORGIVENESS" (page 5)

Connecting with kids in small groups; applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

Today's Bible Lesson

- Before you begin, ask if there are any clubbers who would like to talk with the Bible Connection leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their forever friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.
- What questions do you have about today's story?

Use the Bible 🛄

Review today's Memory Link and Character Word. Guide kids to use cards to mark today's story in their KBC Study Bibles. Lead them to highlight today's Memory Link.

Hang 10 Pages 📖

Give each child a Hang 10 page. Challenge kids to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to do the Weekly Challenge and bring back their Hang 10 pages next week for a time of discussion.

Let's look at Day 4 of the Hang 10. Who would like to read the verse and the Digging In? What stands out to you about Jesus in this section? Let's underline one or two of those in our KBC Bible.

Pray

Give the kids a few minutes to share their prayer requests or write them on index cards. Ask a child to lead the group in prayer. Take the cards home and remember to pray for the kids in your surf team this week.

Thank You, Jesus, for coming to show us what God is like. Thank You for showing us how to love others and to <u>forgive</u>. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Connection Tip

Assign each KBC child to a church member. Ask those members. Lifeguards, to pray for that child and write a note to each child at least once during that school year. Host a KBC party or reception at church and invite all the KBC kids and their families. Invite all the church members who have been praying for those kids. Connect the kids to the members who prayed for them. Allow a time of prayer in person.

Teaching Tip

Some kids may be struggling with a specific situation where it is hard to <u>forgive</u> someone. Maybe they are being bullied. Maybe they have a rough situation at home. Be sensitive to them and encourage them to talk with their school counselor.

MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME

Playing a game to review today's Bible Connection and Character Word



Option 1 – CONE CATCH

Sports cone, small balls

Ask Surf Team leaders to choose two clubbers from their team to play. One person in the pair holds the cone and the other person tosses the balls. The first pair to land two balls in the cone earns the chance to answer a review question. After each round/question – the pairs playing go back to the Surf Teams and the Surf Team leader will send up two different clubbers to play the next round.

Option 2 – PASS IT ON

No supplies needed

Ask each Surf Team to line up single file. On "go," ask the first clubber in each line to create an action to pass down the line of his Surf Team. Each clubber in that Surf Team will repeat the action one at a time from front to back. When the action gets to the last person in the back of the line, they must continue the action back to the front of the line. The first Surf Team to complete their action to the back and front again gets a chance to answer a review question.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. What is today's Character Word? (Forgiveness)
- 2. How many times did Peter suggest we should <u>forgive</u> someone? (Seven times)
- 3. How many times did Jesus tell us to <u>forgive</u>? (Seventy times seven, meaning over and over)
- 4. Should you forgive someone when they don't deserve it? (Yes)
- 5. How many times does Jesus forgive us? (Over and over)
- 6. Fill in the blank: "If we _____ our sins, He is faithful and just to _____ our sins." (Confess, <u>forgive</u>)
- 7. How can you choose to live out what you learned this week? (I can forgive.)
- 8. Is the book of Matthew in the Old or New Testament? (New)
- 9. What do the letters ABC stand for? (Admit, Believe, Choose to Follow)
- 10. Who did God send to provide forgiveness from sin? (Jesus)

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins." 1 John 1:90

