LESSON 9 "FORGIVENESS" (page 1)



BIBLE CONNECTION

Luke 15:11-32 (pages 1131-1132)

CHARACTER WORD

Forgiveness – To release someone from the consequences of a wrong; does not hold a grudge

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

I can know with certainty that when I admit my sins and turn to God, He will forgive me.

MEMORY LINK

Matthew 6:12

"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." (KBC Study Bible pg. 1032)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

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

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Options 1: KBC Study Bible Option 2: KBC Study Bible

BIBLE CONNECTION

Props for role playing

SURF TEAM LEADER

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

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Ruler Option 2: Paint stick or ruler, cups, sponge ball

A Son Leaves Home

WHAT'S THE POINT?

The parable of the prodigal son is an old favorite among many who have known God their whole life. But for many of our students, this will be a new story. Although we know this story as the prodigal son, it is the father who is the true focus. Help clubbers see themselves as the son who has wandered from the Heavenly Father who welcomes them home. The <u>forgiveness</u> with which God showers us should instill in us a desire to <u>forgive</u> others. <u>Forgiveness</u> should be both received and given.

GET CONNECTED



Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today's lesson

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

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

- In our lesson today, a son goes on a trip away from home. If you could travel somewhere away from home, where would you want to go and why?
- Our Character Word today is forgiveness. What does that mean to you?
- What makes it hard to forgive? When do you find it easy to forgive?



Guide students 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

As you utilize two songs that are similar to the worship style at your church, demonstrate the beauty of worship for the children as you worship alongside them. If there are motions for the songs today, please make sure the leaders do them also. Help the children to see that worship is a privilege for us to do for our Heavenly Father and should be done respectfully and with our whole hearts. Consider these songs to help kids understand the Father waits to forgive them with open arms. "Forever Reigns" by Hillsong (youtube.com/watch?v=3f3sNiYpuF4) or "Prodigal" by Sidewalk Prophets (youtube.com/watch?v=8LJsgFN2OeA).

MEMORY LINK

10 MINUTES LESSON 9
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2 Minutes – Teaching the Bible verse to students

8 Minutes - Activity to help them memorize the verse

No supplies needed

Focus on the Bible

Who brought a Bible? Each week in Memory Link, count who remembered to bring their Bibles. Encourage kids to hold up their Bibles high in the air while you count. Keep a running total each week and try to increase the number of Bibles brought every week.

Focus on Today's Memory Link 🕮

Read Matthew 6:12 "And <u>forgive</u> us our debts, as we <u>forgive</u> our debtors." (KBC Study Bible 1032)

What is a debt? (something owed) Most of the time we think of money, but what else can be owed? What if your mom tells you to do something, and you don't do it? Or what if you tell a lie about someone? What do you owe them? (An apology)

In this passage, the Bible is talking about <u>forgiveness</u>. Not just receiving <u>forgivenessm</u>, but giving it as well. Sometimes, people do bad things and then don't even ask for <u>forgiveness</u> or show they are sorry. Do you think people do that to God? What does He do? (<u>forgives</u> anyway) What should we do? (<u>forgive</u> too) Is <u>forgiveness</u> easy? Not always. But <u>forgiving</u> helps keep the relationship strong. God is proud of us when we strive to be like Him and the example He has given us.

Option 1 - Bible Verse Relay

KBC Study Bible

Prepare

Highlight the Memory Link in your KBC Study Bible.

Guide each Surf Team to line up in a single file. Surf Team leaders will hold a KBC Study Bible open to Matthew 6:12 on page 1032 and stand several feet away from their team. The first person in your SurfTeam line will race down to the leader, take the Bible from them, say the verse or read the verse aloud, hand back the Bible, run back and tag the next person. The first team to complete the relay wins.

Option 2 - Pass the Bible

KBC Study Bible

Make sure student's Bibles are identified with their names.

Guide students to sit in a circle. Those who brought their Bibles will hold Bibles in their laps. If everyone brought a Bible, remove one to play the game. Begin passing Bibles to the right as they say the memory verse out loud. When the reference is recited, freeze and score. Remove a Bible and continue play. Continue play until one student receives 10 points or time runs out.

Each clubber who brought a Bible scores three points when the game starts. For each round, award one point for each clubber holding a Bible when verse is finished. Three points for each student who can recite the verse from memory.

Matthew 6:12

"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." (KBC Study Bible pg. 1032)

Teaching Tip

Remember to always read the verse from the KBC Study Bible. Help kids find the verse in their own Bibles. Start with asking them if it is found in the Old Testament or New Testament and then have them find it. Remember to show them the Table of Contents, too, and let them know that all Bibles have that. Ask who can tell you the page number.

Bible 101 🛄

Ask students to find "Digging In" on page 1131 in their KBC Study Bibles. Explain that The Parable of the Lost Son is one of three stories Jesus told about something that has been lost and was found. Challenge students to read all three stories in Luke 15:1-32 (page 1131-1132).

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BIBLE CONNECTION



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

Small bag, play money, party hat, stuffed pig, large ring, other items

Set the Stage

Our Character Word today is... (wait and let the kids tell you). Right! It is forgiveness. Is forgiveness something we need or something we do? (Both) As I teach you today's story, I want you to listen for a person who showed forgiveness and a person who needed forgiveness.

Guide students to open their Bibles to Luke 15:11-32 (page 1131). Encourage them to look for the title "Parable of the Lost Son" on the right column. *Luke chapter 15 contains a collection of three parables Jesus told about things that were lost. Parables are short, simple stories that teach a moral truth or lesson.*Jesus often told parables to help people understand truths about God. Listen as I tell you the story Jesus told.

Tell the Story

There was once a man who had two sons. One day, the younger son went to his father and said, "Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me." In other words, "I want my inheritance now." How sad it must have made that father feel. But he gave the younger his share of the money. (Hold up a small bag and some play money. Put the play money in the bag.) As soon as the son got the money, he was out of there. The Bible tells us he went to a far country and wasted his money. (Put on party hat and start taking out money.)

Think about what it means to waste your money. Maybe he spent money on special clothes (take out some money), or special food (take out some money), or fun things to do (take out some money). But it wasn't long before the son spent all the money his father had given him. (Hold the bag upside down and shake it to show it is empty – then toss the empty bag over your shoulder.)

Without money, the fun times were over. (Take off party hat.) Then things got even worse. A famine came to the land, which meant there wasn't much rain so food ran out and so did jobs. The younger son now had no money and no job and so he started looking for work. But there weren't many jobs available, and the only job he could find was feeding pigs. (Hold up stuffed pig) This son couldn't make much money feeding pigs and he got hungrier and hungrier. You know this little pig might look cute, but pigs don't eat cute food – they eat smelly food – and this son was so hungry he started to decide that the smelly awful pig food was looking pretty good. Yuck!

Now look in verse 17. "But when he came to himself..." That means, the son knew how to act, he had been taught when he was growing up, but he chose to forget what he was taught. "He came to himself," means He started thinking about how his father treated his own workers. They always had more than enough to eat.

The son realized he wasn't living right. The son said, "I will go back to my father's house and I will ask my father to hire me as a worker. I know I haven't acted in the way he taught me to act, so I don't deserve to be treated like a son. I don't deserve to be forgiven. I acted so awful! I hope he will forgive me enough to let me be a worker."

LESSON 9 "FORGIVENESS" (page 3)

Teaching Tip

If you find yourself at times having difficulty keeping students' attention try these tips. Walk around and quietly hand a ticket to students who are listening well. Involve students by asking them to repeat key words you want them to remember. Hand out questions on paper or note cards. When a student raises a quiet hand, thank them and reward them with a ticket! More great tips can be found in the **KBC** Leadership Manual Volume 2: Beach Club Essentials, page 38.

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Wow! This son had really changed. He admitted what he did was wrong. He realized he had sinned against his father. He hoped his dad would forgive him enough to let him live as a servant.

The Bible tells us the father saw this younger son while he was still a long way off. The father ran to him and hugged him and kissed him. Let's read together the last sentence on page 1131 to find what the younger son said to his father.

"Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight and am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the son didn't get the chance to ask for a job, because the father was so glad to have him back. The father called the servants to honor the son. He had them bring him the best robe, put sandals on his feet and put a ring on his hand. (Hold up the ring) The father did all this to show everyone that he still loved and accepted his son. The father even sent servants to cook a special meal so they could have a party and celebrate his son's return. (Put on party hat again) Did the father forgive his son? Yes! But wait! There were two sons in this story.

The older son was out in the fields working. He stayed home working while the younger son was gone. When he came in, he heard the party sounds and discovered his brother was home. He was not happy at all. (Take off party hat) He was so angry he wouldn't even go in to the party, so the father came out to him. The older son complained to his father, "I have always worked for you! I never disobeyed you! Did I ever get a party? No! And now this son of yours comes back and you throw a big party and honor him?"

How well did the older son <u>forgive</u> his brother? (Not at all.) But the father told the older son, "Son, you are always with me and all I have is yours. We are celebrating because your brother was lost and now he is found."

Application

Who does the father represent in the story? (God) Jesus told this parable to show us how much God loves us. Did you notice, that the father went to both sons? God takes the first step and welcomes us. Whom do the sons stand for? They stand for all people who all sin. The father willingly forgave that younger son. But what about the older brother? Did the older brother forgive? No, not at all. Every day we are faced with opportunities to forgive or get mad or try to get even. Let's pray and ask God to forgive us of our sins and help us be forgiving of others in the same way God has forgiven us.

Gospel Connection

Just like the father in the story forgave his sons, God offers forgiveness to all of us. But we have to ASK. Just like the younger brother came to his senses, we too need to realize our need for forgiveness of our sins. It's as simple as A-B-C. All you have to do is ADMIT you're a sinner, like the younger son did, and ASK Jesus to forgive your sin and come into your life. Next, BELIEVE that Jesus' sacrifice paid the debt for your sin. Then CHOOSE TO FOLLOW Jesus by turning away from your sin and choosing God's way rather than your own way. When you do, Heavenly Father waits for you with open arms ready to receive you.

Invite students wanting to know more about praying to ask Jesus to be their forever friend to move to the designated counseling area to talk with a leader one on one. Be sure to have all the decision supplies available.

LESSON 9 "FORGIVENESS" (page 4)

Gospel Tip

As you share the gospel, understand the child's background and previous exposure to the Bible. God leads each student on their own journey to Him. Try to be as simple and straightforward as possible so that they understand what it takes to follow Jesus. Help them understand that life isn't going to be easy but they will never be alone. Also, help them to understand that God's "greatness" is bigger than any sin that can be committed.

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SURF TEAM TIME



LESSON 9
"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 students 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?
- What can you do when you have done something wrong? Emphasize with students that when we confess our sins and pray to God, God <u>forgives</u> us. But we still must take steps to make it right with those we hurt. Talk about ways to act to show we have repented, or turned from our sins and turned to God.
- Sometimes in the story we act like the older son and refuse to <u>forgive</u> others. How can remembering God <u>forgave</u> us help us <u>forgive</u> others?

Teaching Tip

Have students be listening for special words in the story so they can do a special motion. For example, when they hear the word forgiven, they can make an X with their arms, and then put them down beside them as to demonstrate forgiveness or cancelling a debt.

Use the Bible

Give each child a Memory Link card. 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 bring back their Hang 10 pages next week.

Let's look at Day 1 of your Hang 10. Read "The Model Prayer" found in Matthew 6:9-13 in your KBC Study Bible (page 1031). Pray and ask God to forgive you of your debts, or sins, and ask God to help you to forgive others the same.

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.

Dear God, thank You for Your willingness to <u>forgive</u> us when we turn to You and admit our sins. Help us to forgive others, too. In Jesus' name, amen.

MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME



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

Option 1 - RULER CATCH

Ruler

Instruct each team to line up single file. At the signal, the first person in the line tries to answer the question. If they answer the question correctly, they get to try and earn points with the ruler catch. The Surf Team leader holds the ruler so that the 12 line is level with and in between the open index finger and thumb of the student. The leader will drop the ruler, but will not tell the student when the ruler will be dropped. Students must be ready and try to catch the ruler as soon as possible, between their finger and thumb. The inch mark on the ruler closest to the top of the thumb is your score. The faster your reaction, the higher your score! Add each player's individual score to their team total. When time is called, the team with the highest score wins.

Option 2 - PUTT PUTT

Paint stick or ruler, two cups, sponge ball

Prepare

Set the 2 cups 6-8 inches apart.

Line your Surf Team up single file about 10 feet away from the cups. At a signal, the first person in the line tries to answer the first question. If the answer is correct, they then use the ruler to try and putt the sponge ball between the two cups. If the ball goes between the cups without touching the cups, teams score two points. If it goes through but touches one or both cups, only one point is scored.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. In what book of the Bible is the "Parable of the Lost Son" located? (Luke)
- 2. What is today's Character Word? (Forgiveness)
- 3. What did the son do with the money the father gave him? (spent it, wasted it)
- 4. What job did the younger son find? (feeding or taking care of pigs)
- 5. What was the younger son hungry enough to eat? (the food the pigs ate)
- 6. What did the younger son hope would happen when he got home? (He would be a servant in his father's house.)
- 7. What did the father do to show he forgave the younger son? (Answers vary)
- 8. How did the older brother feel when he heard his brother had returned? (mad, unhappy, didn't <u>forgive</u>)
- 9. Who does the father in the story represent? (God)
- 10. Your mom asked you if you finished your homework. You lied and said yes. How could you make this sin right? (many students will say praying to God - prompt them with and what else?)
- 11. What could you do when someone has hurt your feelings to show that you forgive them? (Answers might include talking to them, playing with them)

LESSON 9 "FORGIVENESS" (page 6)

Teaching Tip

Have fun! Cheer on the students during game time and encourage them to cheer for each other. Feel free to join in and play along. Having fun with your students is part of building relationships.

Teaching Tip

Listen carefully to
the Bible Connection
leader so you know
which questions to ask.
Sometimes God takes
a story in a different
direction and not all the
questions will be covered.
Try to ask only the
questions covered by the
lesson.



Matthew 6:12

