



Family Faith Experience for Sunday, March 15th

Today's Lesson For 4th, 5th, and 6th Graders

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness (*Matthew 5:1-2; 23-24*)

BOTTOM LINE: Take the first step to forgive others.

LIFE APP: FORGIVENESS—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay.

SCRIPTURE 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*)

(Before doing the activity below, read the Bible story aloud or play the video provided for today's Bible story.)

FAMILY ACTIVITY: SCENES OF FORGIVENESS

Write the following scenarios in a list on a sheet of paper:

- Your friend forgot your birthday.
- Someone made fun of you and wasn't sorry they did it.
- Your friend promised to save you a seat at lunch, but forgot so you had to eat alone.
- Your parent was late picking you up from school.
- Someone made fun of you and realized it was wrong and they were sorry.
- Your sibling ate all the cookies and you didn't get a single one.

Guide your child(ren) to read over the scenarios. Ask them whether it would be easy or hard to show forgiveness in each scenario (or perhaps somewhere in between). Help them write down a number (1 being the easiest and 6 being the hardest) to note which scenario would be easier or harder to show forgiveness in. Afterward, discuss with them why they rated the scenarios the way they did

WHAT YOU ASK AFTERWARD: "When is it hard to forgive someone? What can keep us from forgiving someone? What are things people do when they hold a grudge? What have you learned that can help you to take the first step to forgive? How can knowing that we are all created in God's image help you to forgive others?"

(Tell about a child-appropriate time when you were brave and took a step toward forgiveness with a friend. Share how it made you feel and how it affected the relationship.)