

Q8

LIFE OF JESUS

The Parable of the Unforgiving Debtor

PursueGODkids.org

Slide: Welcome

(Start kid's countdown once all classes are present.)

Hey kids! Welcome to Kid's Church. I'm so glad you could be here today.

Slide: Series Intro

Leader Tip: Tell the kids that you're really frustrated and that you've had a bad day. You let a friend wear your favorite sweater and they got a big hole in it. Then, you loaned another friend \$100 because they said they needed it for new shoes and they would pay you back. And to top it all off, your friend rode your bike over a jump and bent the frame in half. Then, ask the kids which friend would be easier to forgive and why.

Before we jump into our lesson this week, I have a question for you. What does it look like to hold a grudge against someone? (allow kids to answer). Right, maybe you're mean to them or you look to get them back. Why do we like to hold grudges? (allow kids to answer). Yeah, sometimes it feels good to stay angry at someone. And, choosing to forgive seems like no fun. (If you used the Leader Tip, ask the kids why they thought one would be harder to forgive than another)

Well in today's lesson, we are going to learn an important story about grudges and forgiveness. Jesus tells a story about a king and a crazy thing he did for a servant that's a lesson for us all.

But, before we get into that, let's stand and sing.

Song

Song #1

Good job! I think God loves hearing all your voices praising him! Now let's say our Big Idea together.

Slide: Big Idea

All together: Make it a habit to be forgiving. (Repeat)

Video

Play lesson video.

Slide: Recap

So, what did we learn from the video today? Let's review...

- What did the king decide to do? (Collect all of his debts)
- What did the servant do once he was forgiven a huge debt? (Demanded a small debt from someone else.)
- True or False: We should forgive because Jesus forgives us. (T)

Jesus didn't tell this story because he cares about money. He told the story to teach a lesson about forgiveness. See, the king wasn't a bad guy for wanting his money back. He loaned the money and people were supposed to pay him back. The key part of the story is how one of his servants responded to the king's gift. The king chose to forgive a HUGE debt because he felt bad for his servant. The king knew the debt was too big and the servant would spend years trying to pay it off. But, the servant missed the point. Instead of jumping for joy that his debt was forgiven, he went out and found a friend that owed him a small amount of money and demanded his money. He missed the whole point. Because he had been forgiven, he should've been forgiving.

That reminds me of our memory verse. Let's all stand and say it together.

Slide: Memory Verse

"Forgive (arms open) not seven (hold up seven fingers) times, but seventy times seven (arms open wide)." Matthew 18:22 (Repeat)

This is Jesus talking. He says that we should forgive all the time, not just some of the time. You know why? Because Jesus has forgiven us the biggest debt ever. We have the debt of sin that breaks our relationship with God. Jesus, and only Jesus, forgave that debt by dying on the cross for us. So, when we understand how much we've been forgiven, we will want to be forgiving to the people in our lives!

So kids, let's learn from this story and don't be like the unforgiving servant. Let's make it a habit to be forgiving because Jesus has forgiven us of so much more.

Now, let's all stand and sing one last song together.

Song

Song #2

Okay, let's all say the Big Idea together one last time!

Slide: Big Idea

Make it a habit to be forgiving. (Repeat)

Slide: Let's Pray

Pray and release the kids to small group.