

FORGIVENESS

Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

WEEK TWO
K-5TH

READ ROMANS 3:23

DAY 1

Grab a piece of paper and write your name at the top. Set a timer for two minutes and make a list of all the people that you know. Ready? Set? Go!

Do you know what every person this list has in common? No one you listed is perfect. Every single person has messed up. The Bible calls our mess-ups sin. But God IS perfect. He is always honest. He is never mean or unkind. He is always loving and good. And no matter how hard we try, we can't measure up to God's perfection.

Every person you know, every person at school or church or even on the other side of the globe has messed up. That means that every single person needs something BIG! They need forgiveness. Take a look at the first name on your list. Guess what, YOU need forgiveness too.

The good news is, that when we ask God to forgive, He will. How do we know that? Because He loves us. In fact, He sent Jesus to die on the cross for all of our mess-ups so that we can be forgiven. Because everyone needs forgiveness, even me.

THANK God for choosing to forgive when you mess up.

READ JOHN 3:16

DAY 2

Yesterday, we learned that everyone has sinned or messed up, even you. But there is good news. God loves you. How do you know He loves you? Because He sent His one and only Son, Jesus. Jesus chose to die in the most painful way to take the punishment for our sin. And three days later, He ROSE again to prove that nothing could separate us from God when we put our trust in Jesus!

When you believe in Jesus and trust that what He did on the cross paid the price for your sin, then you will be forgiven. When you trust Jesus as your Savior, then your mess-ups can no longer separate you from God. When you trust Jesus as your Savior, you can have a relationship with God, both now on earth and one day forever in heaven.

Grab a chenille stem (pipe cleaner) or wiki stick and form it into the shape of a cross. Place your cross somewhere to remind you that Jesus came so that you could be forgiven.

ASK God to help you understand what Jesus has done so that you could be forgiven.

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READ EPHESIANS 2:4-5

DAY 3

Grab a piece of foil from the kitchen. See how shiny it is? Now, crumple up the foil into a ball and then spread it out flat again on the counter. Does it look the same as it did before? No way. It's similar to how our lives look when we mess up. We can try to make it right on our own, but no matter how hard we try, we'll never be that shiny piece of foil again.

But there is good news! God loves you. He is full of mercy and compassion, which means He deeply cares for you. There isn't an expiration date on His love for you. God knew that our sin or mess-ups would separate us from Him. To fix that BIG problem, God sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sin so that we could be forgiven. Because everyone needs forgiveness, even me.

Hold onto your piece of foil. You'll need it for tomorrow.

LISTEN to God's word so you can learn about His forgiveness for you.

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

DAY 4

Remember your wadded up piece of foil from yesterday? Think about your life like that piece of foil. Maybe you said something unkind to your mom this morning. Turn up one corner of the foil. Maybe you grabbed something away your little brother in anger. Turn up another corner. Or maybe you told a lie so you wouldn't get in trouble. Go ahead and wad up the foil again then spread it out flat.

Can you imagine what your life would look like if people could actually SEE all the wrong things you do like you can see all these wrinkles in the foil? But here's the thing. God does see all our mess ups and still chooses to forgive us. That's why He sent Jesus.

Do you know what happens when you trust Jesus as your Savior? The Bible says you become a new creation. Pull out a brand new piece of foil and place it on the counter next to your crumpled up piece. When you trust Jesus as Savior, you are made new. Because when we trust Jesus, He forgives you and makes you clean.

KNOW that when you trust Jesus you are a NEW creation.

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Everyone needs
to be forgiven,
even me.