



## WEEK FIVE – MARCH 2020

**Bible Story:** I Don't Want to Miss a Thing (Father and Older Brother) • *Luke 15:21-32*

**Bottom Line:** When you don't forgive, you miss out.

**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 (NIRV)*

**Life App:** Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

**Basic Truth:** I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

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**9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:40 - KIDS ARRIVE**

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### Team Welcomes Kids *(Providing Time for Fun Interactions)*

"Je-sus loves me.  
2 lap pats – 2 claps  
Je-sus loves me.  
2 lap pats – 2 claps  
Jesus loves [child's name]"  
shout out the name

#### 1. Early Arriver Idea: Make Me Laugh

*Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body.*

**What You Need:** "Make Me Laugh" Activity Page

**What You Do:**

- Tell the kids you are going to tell some jokes, but they have to try not to laugh.
- Guide kids to form a straight line facing you.
- Read the jokes from the Activity Page.
- If kids laugh, they are out. The last serious kid standing is the winner.
- Play again if time allows, and see if the kids have any jokes of their own.
- If you imagine your few will not process and respond to the jokes on the Activity Page, challenge kids to take turns trying to make each other laugh with silly faces, sounds, etc.

### What You Say:

“Those were so hilarious! It is so hard being serious when everyone else is laughing and having fun. It almost feels like you are missing out on the joke. *[Transition]* Let’s head to Large Group to hear a story that we definitely don’t want to miss out on.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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**9:10-9:35 | 10:40-11:05 - LARGE GROUP**

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*Bible Story – INTRO, Story, OUTRO Videos (whatever works best for your few)  
Worship SONGS*

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**9:35-10:05 | 11:05-11:35 - SMALL GROUP**

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## GROUPS

*(Creating a Safe Place to Connect)*

### 2. Blocking the Fun

[Live for God | Application Activity]

*Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building and designing*

**What You Need:** Large stackable items such as Mega Bloks<sup>®</sup>, LEGO<sup>®</sup> blocks, or books

### What You Do:

- Set out your stackable items and invite the kids to pair up.
- One partner will hold their arms out while the other partner stacks blocks onto their arms. Stack the blocks not too heavy, but heavy enough to where it is a little tricky to move.
- Play some music and tell the kids holding blocks to try and dance.
- Give them a few minutes to try and dance holding the blocks.
- Switch partners and give them a chance to stack the blocks and dance.

### What You Say

“It is kinda tricky to hold the blocks and dance at the same time, right? In our story today, the older brother couldn’t celebrate forgiveness because he was too busy holding things against his younger brother. It is just like the older brother was holding lots of heavy blocks so they got in the way of him celebrating! When we choose to forgive others, it is like dropping all of this heavy weight. When we choose not to forgive, the heavy stuff keeps us from celebrating or simply having a good day.

“Let’s think about some times this might happen to us. Maybe you’re so mad that your little brother tore up your favorite book that you scream at him, get in trouble with your parents, and miss out on a play date with your best friend. Or maybe you’re so upset that your mom forgot she had a meeting when she had promised you would have family movie night tonight, and you spend the whole evening pouting and thinking mean thoughts about her instead of simply enjoying spending time with the rest of your family. Or what if you don’t get that really expensive gift you wanted for your birthday, so you refuse to play with the toys you DID get and won’t talk to anyone at your party? Remember that ***[Bottom Line]*** when you don’t forgive, you miss out.”

***[Make It Personal] (Tell a child-appropriate story about a time when you missed out on celebrating because you didn't forgive. Share about how that made you feel and how you eventually came around.)***

## **Pray and Dismiss**

### **[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

*Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Party blowers

### **What You Do:**

- Gather the kids in a circle on the floor or around a table and give everyone a party blower.
- Ask kids to call out things we can celebrate about God.
  - Kids may need some prompting at first. You can start by saying a few things yourself, such as: He made us, He loves us, He forgives us, etc.
- After each one, blow your party blowers.

### **What You Say:**

“Let’s pray and thank God for all that He does for us and then we can celebrate! Dear God, thank You so much for forgiving us no matter what and teaching us to forgive others. We love You so much. Amen!

“It is so amazing that God forgives us, and I think it’s also amazing that He gives us the ability to forgive others. This week, remember ***[Bottom Line] when you don’t forgive, you miss out.***”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to blow their party blowers and tell them their favorite thing we can celebrate about God.