TOGETHER IS BETTER



FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2023

PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNEC 25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Please Forgive Me Forgive One Another Colossians 3:13

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Why is forgiveness important?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends forgive one another.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times.
They are there to help when trouble comes."

Proverbs 17:17, NIrV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Have you ever had to forgive someone?
- Why is it sometimes difficult to forgive?
- Why is forgiveness important?
- How has God forgiven us?
- How do you think things would be different if God didn't forgive us when we mess up?

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4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared Twix candy bars, "Sweet Verses Questions" Activity Page, Bibles, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

Put kids in pairs and invite kids to spread out with their

partners.

- Give each pair of kids a prepared Twix bar, a Bible, a copy of the "Sweet Verses Questions" Activity Page, and a pen or pencil.
- Tell them to remove the slip of paper that is wrapped around their candy bar and work together to look up the verse on their slip of paper.
- Then they will read the questions on the "Sweet Verses Questions" Activity Page and work together to write down their answers.
- When they have finished answering the questions, they can open their Twix bar and share it, each taking one of the bars inside the pack.
- Give each pair a turn to read their verse out loud for the entire group and then share the answers they wrote to the guestions. Allow time for discussion.
- Explain that these verses can all help us remember how to be a good friend to the people in our lives. If any of them are particularly relevant, encourage them to write that verse down and take it with them.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: White board, dry erase marker, dry eraser

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask kids if anyone wants to share things they have done where they've needed to ask God for forgiveness.
- Create a safe space for kids to share. Don't pressure anyone to share, but also remind them that everyone does things that require forgiveness.
- As kids share, write brief descriptions of what they say on the white board. (ie: "Lied to Mom" or "Called brother a mean name.")
- After everyone has had a chance to share, use the eraser to erase everything that was written on the white board.
- Remind kids that God forgives us, no matter what. This should motivate us to forgive our friends.
- Next, ask if anyone wants to share about how they may be struggling to forgive someone else.
- Start off by sharing an example of your own. (Be sure that the example you share is relatable. You should be willing to show your group how you mess up, too. But it should also be age appropriate. Not everything going on in your life should be shared with your group!)
- Once everyone has had a chance to share, remind kids that they can always talk to God and ask for help with forgiving others. God loves us, understands everything we go through, and will be there for us.
- Allow a few minutes of quiet time for kids to silently pray and ask God to help them with any situations they may have going on in their lives.
- Close your time together by praying for the whole group.