

Sunday Club – 13th September 2020

The following is one way of delivering this session with children.

Opening activity

Place a bucket with the label '7' near to the children, and a bucket labelled '77' far away from the group.

Mark out a line to stand behind and invite your child(ren) and yourself to take it in turns to throw a ball or bean bag to see which of the buckets is easier to reach.

Opening prayer - Lord God, help us to understand

Lord God,
help us to understand
how good it feels
to forgive
and to be forgiven.
Help us to remember that
you forgive us
again, and again.
Amen.

Open the Word: Open the Bible at Matthew 18.21-35

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+18.21-35&version=ICB>

Jesus teaches that we should always forgive.

Pulling faces

Invite your child(ren) to imagine they are the king, the first slave, and the second slave (you could allocate each child and yourself a role if you have 3 or more). As the story is read, pause at various points and ask them to pull faces to show how they think their character would be feeling at that point in the story.

Talk together:

- What do you think Peter might have felt listening to Jesus' story and answer?
- Has anyone ever forgiven you for something? How did it feel?
- How many times could you forgive someone?

Craft Activity: Heart chains

Use the number 7 to think about having a forgiving heart

You will need: [template](#), paper/thin card, pens, scissors.

- Print enough templates onto paper or thin card for one per child. Invite everyone to colour in the number 7, at one end of their template.
- Ask your child(ren) to carefully fold along each of the dotted lines in alternating directions, to make a concertina or 'fan' shape (pre-prepare for younger children).

- Help your child(ren) to carefully cut through the whole fan to cut out the number 7, then invite them to open it out to reveal a chain of love hearts. Remind the group that Peter wanted to forgive seven times, but Jesus said we should always have a forgiving heart.
- Invite them to write the names of people they might want to forgive on the heart or to do so as situations arise.

Praise Song: Forgive One Another (We Are United)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZ_wCZ1gPN4

Sing along!

Washed away

Ask for help to forgive others

You will need: water-soluble vitamin tablets, pencils, a bowl of water.

- Give each child a vitamin tablet and ask them to write or draw on it something they would like to forgive others for (lead pencils work best).
- Invite your child(ren) to drop their tablets in the bowl of water and ask God to help them forgive.
- As they watch the tablet disappear, encourage the children to pray for the person or situation where they need God's help to forgive.

Closing Prayer: Help us, Lord

Help us, Lord,
to always remember
to forgive as you forgive us.
Again and again and for ever.
Amen.

Other ideas for family worship:

An alternative is provided by Hull minster (on Exodus 14: 19-31)

<https://hullminster.org/family-resources>

Kid's Church (Exodus 14) which is great fun and very interactive. Beforehand, you can read the details which shows you the resources that will be required.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7ZWByWVwDw>

I await information regarding the Diocesan Children and Young People Mission and Ministry Team's weekly Ministry@Home sheets.

<https://www.rochester.anglican.org/under18s/ministryhome/family-worship-in-the-home/>