



The Diocese of
Canterbury

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

YEAR 3/TERM 2/WEEK 5

CELEBRATING GOD THE FATHER WHO FORGIVES ('FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US')

It is important to deal with both parts of this sentence – we can ‘say sorry’ but forgiveness is something far more significant and is based upon the understanding that we are forgiven by others and also by God.

Values link: Forgiveness

SEAL: Relationships

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>Thinking question: Ask everyone to think quietly to themselves: How does it feel when someone says to you ‘That’s ok.’ Or ‘I forgive you’?</p> <p>Leader: The Lord be with you Response: And also with you</p>	<p>FORGIVE US OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US (whole school) Matthew 6 v 12 Discuss the “bargains” agreed between friends, “If you then I will”, with the focus being on the fairness of such agreements. Ask the children to suggest some ‘bargains’. Some children (prepared in advance) could be in pairs and strike up such bargains, but some need to be unfair, so that the children in assembly notice and comment. Compare this with this part of the Lord’s prayer – people can only expect to be forgiven if they forgive. This is like God making a kind of bargain with us. It is only fair that we should forgive others, if we are asking to be forgiven! Act out a short scene with an adult who has done something to upset you. They say sorry but you are so upset, you can hardly speak to them. Ask the children what you should do (hopefully, they will say forgive her/him!) Ask the children why you should forgive. Think aloud, ‘If I don’t forgive them, We won’t be able to be friends any more’. Play out the scene until you forgive them and ask how that looks or feels.</p> <p>HOW OFTEN SHOULD I FORGIVE? (whole school) Matthew 18 v 21-35 Peter asks Jesus, ‘How many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?’ Jesus answers, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy seven times”. Ask the children what they think about this answer. How many times have they forgiven someone? Tell them the story of the Unforgiving servant, which tells of a man who was forgiven by his master, but then threw his own debtor in jail! This lends itself well to drama.</p>	<p>Prayer: Dear Father, we know you always forgive us when we say sorry. We ask you to forgive us for the things we have done wrong. Please especially forgive me for... <i>(think silently about a personal situation)</i> Help me to forgive ... <i>(silent thought)</i> Amen</p> <p>Hymn: Shalom (Come and Praise or Junior Praise).</p>	<p>Ask the pupils to consider this as they leave worship: How does it feel when you say to someone who has hurt you ‘That’s ok’ or ‘I forgive you’?</p> <p>Prayer: Dear Father, Thank you that when we have made mistakes, people have forgiven us. We ask that you help us to forgive others when they</p>



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<p>Leader: Lift up your hearts Response: We lift them to the Lord.</p> <p>Show an image of a Daisy or Daisy chain. Ask the children to think what this flower is the symbol of (forgiveness).</p> <p>Show an image such as this, of siblings fighting over a toy.</p> 	<p>What do the children think about the story? There is a version of this on the 'Veggietales' website, with ideas for questions.</p> <p>THOSE WHO ARE FORGIVEN MUCH ARE THOSE WHO LOVE MUCH (whole school) Luke 7 v 36-47 Ask for ideas about what the Daisy flower represents. Don't give away the answer at this point. Ask the pupils if they have ever made any mistakes. Tell them that this is normal! Talk about the kinds of mistakes we make. You may have a story of your own to share. In the Bible, we have the story of Mary (not Jesus' mother) who had done a lot of wrong things in her life. She knew that she needed to ask Jesus to forgive her for many things. Jesus said that she would love Him more, because He had forgiven her for so many things. It was like a great weight lifted from her. Do pupils feel more relieved at being forgiven for some things than others? Do they feel better for being forgiven for greater wrongs than 'smaller' ones? Ask the pupils to give some examples – not necessarily from personal experience! Ask again what they think the daisy is a symbol of forgiveness.</p> <p>FORGIVE US OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US (class or key stage) Matthew 6 v 12 For Key Stage 1 The story of the doll and the snake (From Yoga stories wordpress.com). http://yogastories.wordpress.com/2008/03/06/the-doll-and-the-snake-a-short-story-about-forgiveness-for-children/ tells of sibling rivalry which involves a doll and a toy snake. There are some good examples of the kinds of questions you might ask, at the end of the story online. For Key Stage 2 The frog and the frying pan by Pedro Pablo Sacristan (http://freestoriesforkids.com/children/stories-and-tales/frog-and-frying-pan) How would you have reacted if you had been one of the characters in the story? What does the story teach us? Reflect on how these stories give us a better understanding of the words about forgiveness from the Lord's Prayer.</p>	<p>Hymn: Lord of all hopefulness (Come and Praise)</p> <p>Prayer: The Lord's prayer</p>	<p>say or do things that upset us. Amen</p> <p>When did you last say sorry? Whom do you need to forgive? Why is it hard to forgive?</p> <p>Ask children to draw a large daisy and write 'Sorry' on it and give to someone they have wronged - it may even be a sibling at the school! If time, you could provide Daisy cut out shapes. If not, have some plain paper available so pupils can draw, write and cut out.</p>
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