

Children's Church at Home 13 September 2020

Matthew 18:21-35. Problems with friends and what to do when someone says sorry.

Craft ingredients: card, scissors, pens, glue or pritt stick, tissue paper for hair (or something else!).

Introduction: Have you ever heard the phrase 'you owe him an apology'? we usually use the word owe when we're talking about money. And that's what this story is about:

Story: This story is not in the Lion First Bible, but you can read it here.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+18%3A21-35&version=ERV>

Video: <https://youtu.be/ED3fzkS-bhA>

Think: the servant was very happy to be 'forgiven': he didn't have to pay all that money he owed. But then he forgot that kindness and was unkind to someone who owed him money. God loves us and always forgives us when we are sorry, truly sorry. We must decide to forgive other people when they say sorry.

Questions: what do you do if ...?

1. You're busy building a Lego model and someone knocks it over and breaks it.
2. You want to play shops but your friends want to play football?
3. Someone makes a joke about your new glasses or haircut?
4. You'd like to go to someone's party and then they say you're not invited.

And then, if they say sorry, what do you do?

If it's something really serious, you can forgive but you can share the problem with someone else. You can always talk to an adult you trust, like a parent, a teacher, Rev Jon or Rev Terry.

Craft: Make a hug! You'll see how to do it in the video.

Activity: When you have nothing to do, it's easy to choose to annoy someone else. Play a funny game which should make everyone laugh! Take a piece of paper for each player. Draw a head at the top (animal, person, dinosaur, anything) fold the picture back, just leaving the neck showing. Pass your paper on to the next player. The next person draws the body, leaving the top of the legs showing. Fold the paper back and pass it on. The next player draws legs. Then pass the paper on and open it out. You should have a picture of a very funny creature!

Read: Colossians 3:12-14 <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%203:12-14&version=CEV>

Prayer: Father God, sometimes it's really hard to be a good friend, especially when people don't want to play, or just want to do things their way. Help us to be friendly and kind; help us to work and play together; help us to forgive each other even when we feel terribly angry or sad. Please take away all that sadness and anger, bless the person who made us feel bad, and fill us with loving care. Amen.

The Grace: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.