

Jesus Calls us to Forgive Others

Week 2 (30th July 2023):

The Big Point: Jesus Calls us to Forgive Others

God's Word: The Story of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:21-35)

Memory Verse: And here is the second one. 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' Mark 12:31a (NIRV)

Application: I will be quick to forgive others as God forgave me.

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Series Aim: To inspire kids to love others like how Jesus loved people.

Creative Video:  The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

Primary Huddle Guide #2

Duration: 30 mins

Before Sunday:

- Pray and prepare yourself by reading through this Huddle Guide and the Word Study of the week found on the [HopeKids Service Plan Blogspot](#).
- All Huddle Leaders are to prepare your own "script" and things to say. Feel free to inject your own questions or discussion points whenever necessary to suit the needs of your children.

● **NOTES:**

- *You are highly encouraged to always make your own preparation by reading the Word Study.

● **PREP:**

- To come a bit earlier to prep the A3 paper for sharing (instructions below)
- To bring the items suggested below

Before Service on Sunday Morning:

- Please note that the following is provided this week:
 - A3 Paper

- **PREP:** Place the A3 paper in a landscape position and draw a horizontal line that spans the whole length of the paper. On the left, write a 1 and on the far right a 10. Draw a small line and write your name at how you think your week was.
- **BRING:** A bag (e.g. canvas bag) you can open wide (if you don't have any, you can bring a pan) and 20 small knick-knack items (any item you can find at home or in your bag - stickers, toys, key, keychain, tissue packs, stationary items...). You are free to switch up your own rendition of a memory game, but do be sure to link it back to the Big Point and lesson!
- Prepare all the items that are needed for Huddle Time. For this week:
 - Physical Bibles
 - HopeKids Notebooks
 - Writing Materials
 - Marker

During Huddle Time:

- Have the children sit in a circle, keeping it to 12 children per group.
- Welcome and ease the children into Huddle Time by:
 - Introducing yourself and the kids to one another
 - Air high-fives, fist bumps
 - Playing small ice breaker games
- Remind the kids that the BEST rules still applies during Huddle Time

Activity 1: Ice Breakers (10-15 mins)

Objective: To open the small group time with the kids. To connect kids to each other, to huddle leaders and what they learnt to their daily lives!

Materials Needed:

- A3 Paper*
- Pencil / Marker / Pen

- Bag
- Knick-knacks

Prep: In the morning before service starts and before kids come in, place the paper in a landscape position and draw a horizontal line that spans the whole length of the paper. On the left, write a 1 and on the far right a 10. Draw a small line and write your name at how you think your week was.

Part 1: How did your week go?

Alright, HopeKids! Over here, I have a piece of paper. We are going to take some time to share how our week has been, and let's make this a fruitful sharing by thinking properly how our week has been. On the left, we have a 1 which means, maybe you had a really tiring or stressful week. On the right a 10 which means perhaps you had a great week! Maybe you ate your favourite food, you went to your favourite place! Write a small line and your name at where you'll rate your week.

- Share where your week is but say you will share why later.
- Go round the group and get each kid to rate their weeks.
- After that when it's back to you, share why you rated your week in such a way.
- Encourage the kids to share why they rated their week in such a way and go round to share.
- Upon hearing how the kids' lives had been in the past week, you can also bring in things on how to engage the kids through the rest of huddle time.

Part 2: Knick-Knacks Memory Game

Alright kids, shall we also play a memory game together. Here in this bag, I have many small items here. I am going to open the bag and let you see all the items inside for 30 seconds. And we will see if you can remember what is in the bag.

- At the end of 30 seconds, turn your back to the kids and take an item out of the bag without letting them see what you took out—and hide it in a pocket or somewhere else.
- Give the bag a shake and then turn back to the children, and let them guess which item you removed. No hints!
- Play several rounds. Then reveal and replace the missing items.

After that, ask the kids the following questions:

- *What made it easy or difficult to remember all the items?*
- *When have you forgotten something you needed to remember? What happened as a result?*
- *What's something you think you'd like to forget?*

You know HopeKids, our memories can play tricks on us. Things we want to remember, we sometimes forget. Things we'd rather forget, we sometimes remember. But here's something that's true: everybody forgets things! You have forgotten things, I have forgotten things, your parents have forgotten things. ~~And you know what kids? God also forgets things. Do you believe that? That's right: God sometimes forgets things, not because he cannot remember, but he chose to forget certain things. God chose to not remember certain things.~~

- ~~Get someone to flip to [Hebrews 10:17](#) and read it aloud.~~

~~When we go to God to repent, are sorry and say sorry for our sins, God forgives us. And once God forgives us for something, he chooses not to recall it, not to remember it and to not bring it up again. And here's where things get hard: God wants us to forgive people in just the same way.~~

NEW CONTENT: Everyone forgets things. And well, what's another way of saying forget?

- to not remember!
- God chose to remember no more, and that means He does not hold the sins against us anymore, when Christ's sacrifice for us all once and for all.
- Get kids to flip to 1 Cor 13:4-7 and read it aloud
 - Verse 5 tells us love keeps no record of wrongs. What do you think this means?
 - What does it mean when someone 'wrongs' you?
 - Why do you think God does not want us to keep a record of wrongs?
- Get kids to also flip to Ephesians 4:32 and read it aloud
 - Why does God want us to forgive one another?
 - What are the 2 greatest commandments?
 - God forgives our sins. In the same way, God wants us to forgive others when they sin against us.
 - Part of loving someone is forgiving them when they wrong us
 - We may not forget the sins, but God does not want us to hold grudges against others.

- Get kids to flip to [Luke 11:1-4](#) and read it aloud.
 - Notice that the verse says “forgive us as we forgive others” line. That means us.
 - We are to forgive others as we want Jesus to forgive us. God forgives us—And God also wants us to forgive others. **Jesus Calls Us to Forgive Others.**

Activity 2: Discussion and Reflection (10-15 mins)

Objective: To connect kids to each other, to huddle leaders and what they learnt to their daily lives!

Materials Needed:

- Physical Bible
- Writing Materials
- HopeKids Journal

Like what we have learnt from the story today, we learn that **Jesus Called Us to Forgive Others.**

Engage the kids with the following recap questions (if necessary):

- How many times did Jesus tell us to forgive others?
 - Note: Even though Jesus said 77/70x7 times, it was just a means to say that we should forgive as much as it is asked of us. This is because God will always forgive us no matter how many times we do wrong, as long as we have a heart that repents and wants to make right our wrongs.
- What happened to the first servant who owed the King money?
- Did the first servant treat others how the King treated him?

From the story,

- What happened to the first servant in the end? What was it that he did wrong?
- What’s the lesson about forgiveness that Jesus is trying to teach?
- If Jesus is serious about that message, what does that mean to me?
- *Allow the kids time to write and reflect in their HopeKids journals too.*

HopeKids, forgiveness is a two-way thing. Yes, God will forgive us if we ask. But we're expected to be just as forgiving. In that way we begin to show other people what God is like. God is forgiving—let's be forgiving too! Remember, **Jesus Calls Us to Forgive Others!**

Shall we pray together?

- *Pray in your own words.*
- *Possible prayer: Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us and showing us how you love me, and forgiving me despite how many times I do wrong, as long as I come to you in repentance. Your love and forgiveness knows no end and I pray that I can reflect that to the people around me too. Help me to forgive others as you have forgiven me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

Activity 3: Memory Verse

Objective: To hide God's Word in the children's hearts

Materials needed:

- Physical Bible
- Recommended to prepare: small pieces of paper or post-its
- Writing Materials

Note: Please note that we do not have a memory verse video for this series. Huddle Leaders are highly encouraged to go through the memory verse with the kids within huddle time!! Huddle leaders can also first explain the meaning of the verse before getting the kids to memorise.

And here is the second one. 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'

Mark 12:31a (NIRV)

The Great Commandment (Mark 12:28-31)

In Mark 12:23-31, when someone asked Jesus which commandment from God is the most important of all and central to everything else, Jesus answers directly: the most important commandment, introduced by Deuteronomy 6:4, is to love the Lord your God completely (Deuteronomy 6:5, Matt. 22:37–38 and Luke 10:27). Second to this is to love your neighbour, or anyone around you and beside you as much as you love yourself (Leviticus 19:18, 19:34). And thus, the greatest command He calls us to is simply to:

1. Love God

2. Love other people too (Romans 13:8–10; Galatians 5:14; 1 John 4:10–11, 19)

And these commands, Jesus Himself did perfectly during his time on earth as a physical human being. Jesus loved God and people perfectly, understanding fully that everyone needs love and forgiveness and calling us to love and forgive others as well, especially if we know God's love for ourselves. We can tap into God's love to share His love to others by loving and forgiving others.

Huddle leaders can do this in various ways. If using small strips of paper/post-its:

- *You can give each kid one of the strips of paper for them to write on like a dictation.*
- *You can make it a game by having each kid in your huddle group write one word and have the kids put the memory verse together using their word.*

Announcements



Next week, join us on a national day adventure in HopeKids! We will travel to the past with Oliver the Otter and his friends on the HopeKids bus to the past. We will play fun games your dad and mum used to play when they were kids, and learn what it means to be a citizen of Singapore and heaven!