

# FORGIVEN



**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

A FEW MOMENTS TO PREPARE.

USE THESE ICONS TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE THIS WEEK'S LESSON



### TALK TOGETHER

Family conversations with God's Word.



### MORE TO EXPLORE

Discover how this conversation fits into God's Big Story.



### THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

Post it on the fridge. Use it all week.



### COLORING PAGE

Keep little hands busy before, during and after your family conversation.



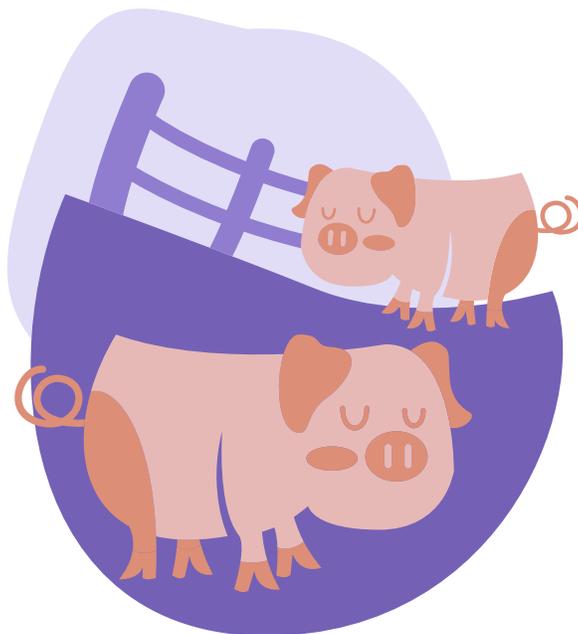
**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN LEFT OUT OF SOMETHING? MAYBE YOUR FRIENDS PLAYED A GAME TOGETHER BUT DIDN'T INCLUDE YOU. WHAT DID THAT FEEL LIKE?**

Nobody wants to be left out or forgotten. It makes us feel hurt and rejected. Thankfully, that's not how God works. He wants everyone to be on His team! When Jesus came to Earth, He came to pay the price for the sins of you, me and **ANYONE** who calls on Him.

Some people think their sin is too horrible for God to forgive. The good news is that's not true. There is no one like our God. He forgives anyone who calls on Him.



In the Bible, Jesus taught His followers about forgiveness. One time, He told a story about a man with two sons. The older son followed the rules and helped out his dad, but the younger son did not. He left home and spent his money on bad things. When he ran out of money, he was forced to care for pigs. Hunger made him want to eat what the pigs were eating! The young son decided he needed to go home and ask his father for forgiveness. **Let's find out what happened in the New Testament book of John. Can you help me find Luke 15:17-24.**



***"BUT WHEN HE CAME TO HIMSELF, HE SAID, 'HOW MANY OF MY FATHER'S HIRED SERVANTS HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH BREAD, BUT I PERISH HERE WITH HUNGER! I WILL ARISE AND GO TO MY FATHER, AND I WILL SAY TO HIM, 'FATHER, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST HEAVEN AND BEFORE YOU. I AM NO LONGER WORTHY TO BE CALLED YOUR SON. TREAT ME AS ONE OF YOUR HIRED SERVANTS.'" AND HE AROSE AND CAME TO HIS FATHER. BUT WHILE HE WAS STILL A LONG WAY OFF, HIS FATHER SAW HIM AND FELT COMPASSION, AND RAN AND EMBRACED HIM AND KISSED HIM. AND THE SON SAID TO HIM, 'FATHER, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST HEAVEN AND BEFORE YOU. I AM NO LONGER WORTHY TO BE CALLED YOUR SON.' BUT THE FATHER SAID TO HIS SERVANTS, 'BRING QUICKLY THE BEST ROBE, AND PUT IT ON HIM, AND PUT A RING ON HIS HAND, AND SHOES ON HIS FEET. AND BRING THE FATTENED CALF AND KILL IT, AND LET US EAT AND CELEBRATE. FOR THIS MY SON WAS DEAD, AND IS ALIVE AGAIN; HE WAS LOST, AND IS FOUND.' AND THEY BEGAN TO CELEBRATE."***

**LUKE 15:17-24**

CONT. →



WEEK OF SEPT. 25, 2022



Everyone should have been happy when the young brother returned, but somebody wasn't. The older son who stayed home didn't think his brother should be forgiven. He was angry their father threw a party, and he refused to go. He didn't understand why their father was celebrating his younger brother's return!

The older son failed to realize he needed forgiveness too. No one is perfect, and we all mess up. But our great God offers complete forgiveness! We should be excited when anyone asks Jesus for forgiveness of their sins and accepts Him as their Savior.

You see, when Jesus died on the cross He died for the whole world, including thieves, murderers, cheaters, liars and more. His forgiveness is available to anyone who calls on Him because His sacrifice on the cross was perfect and complete.

There will be days when people make us feel rejected or left out. Thankfully, God doesn't play favorites. Despite the bad decisions we sometimes make, we know that anyone who puts their faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior will be completely forgiven. **What a great God we serve!**



 END OF TALK TOGETHER \_\_\_\_\_

# Talk About



**FOR YOU, O LORD, ARE GOOD  
AND FORGIVING, ABUNDING  
IN STEADFAST LOVE TO ALL  
WHO CALL UPON YOU.**

**PSALM 86:5**

**WHO CAN BE FORGIVEN?  
ANYONE WHO CALLS ON HIM.**



# \* MORE TO EXPLORE

WEEK OF SEPT. 25, 2022

## GOD'S BIG STORY

CREATION



EVERYTHING  
GOD CREATED  
WAS GOOD.

FALL



ADAM & EVE SINNED,  
AND SIN PASSED TO  
ALL PEOPLE, EVEN  
YOU AND ME.

REDEMPTION



THOUGH ALL OF  
US ARE SINNERS,  
CHRIST DIED  
FOR US.

RESTORATION



JESUS WILL  
COME AGAIN.

### FIND IT IN THE BIBLE:

## LUKE

Today's story comes from the book of Luke. Luke is one of the four Gospels and is the third book in the New Testament. It was written so all would know that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost.

### SINCE GOD IS PERFECT, WHY WOULD HE WANT TO FORGIVE A SINNER LIKE ME?

We are God's creation, and He cares for us. In the New Testament book of John, God tells us why He wants to forgive us. John 3:16 says: *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."* God wants to forgive us because He loves us. All we need to do is ask.

### OT-NT CONNECTION

Throughout the Bible, God continually demonstrates His great mercy toward His children and His incredible capacity for forgiveness. Read **Psalm 86**, a prayer of David. David makes several requests of the Lord.

- Find some of the requests David makes.
- For what things have you asked (or could you ask) the Lord to forgive?

Our God is powerful enough to forgive all of our sins!

### JOURNAL

Find a notebook or small journal and write "Forgiveness Journal" on the front with this week's verse underneath. Each day this week, think of one reason you are thankful for God's forgiveness and write it down.

This activity doesn't have to end at the end of this week! Keep it going as long as you can.

### IF I'M FORGIVEN, ARE THERE STILL CONSEQUENCES FOR THE WRONG THINGS I DO?

Yes. Like Romans 6:23 says, our sins eternally separate us from God. That is the penalty for sin. Anyone who accepts God's gift of salvation will not go to hell, but instead will receive eternal life and forgiveness of their sins. However, there are still consequences for the wrong things we do. In the first book of the Bible called Genesis, Adam and Eve experienced this when they sinned in the Garden of Eden and sin entered the world.

### READ



Read the full story of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32. How did each of the sons mess up? Despite their wrongs, the father still loved them both. Both the older son and younger son could be forgiven. Forgiveness and salvation are available to everyone.

# ★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

WEEK OF SEPT. 25, 2022

## ♥ MEMORIZE

**FOR YOU, O LORD, ARE GOOD AND FORGIVING, ABUNDING IN STEADFAST LOVE TO ALL WHO CALL UPON YOU.**

**PSALM 86:5**

**Q: WHO CAN BE FORGIVEN?**

**A: ANYONE WHO CALLS ON HIM**

## SHARE

Tell your kids about a time you observed the power of God's forgiveness in someone else's life. How did it impact their life?

## WATCH



Watch this week's Memory Melody video with your kids to memorize this week's verse!

## PRAY

**DEAR JESUS, THANK YOU FOR FORGIVENESS. WE DO NOT DESERVE YOUR FORGIVENESS, BUT YOU STILL GIVE IT TO US. HELP US TO ASK FORGIVENESS FOR THE BAD THINGS WE DO AND TO LIVE FOR YOU. AMEN.**

## FIND

This week's passage is found in the book of Luke. Help your child find the book of Luke. Is this book in the Old or New Testament? How many chapters are there? Who was this book written by?

## SEARCH

The Bible says the prodigal son became so hungry he wanted to eat pig food! Thankfully, he decided to go home and ask his father for forgiveness. Help your child search the internet for pictures of pig food so they can understand the situation the prodigal son was in.

## CREATE

Draw the outline of a heart on a paper plate and drizzle glue on the inside of it. Have your child fill the heart with dried macaroni or beans. Hang the heart up where your child can see it.

Explain that the heart is a reminder that God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins so we can be forgiven.

## ASK

**Do really good people still need to be forgiven?**

Yes! Even really good people still sin. In fact, aside from Jesus, no one who has lived on Earth, or will live on Earth, is sinless. That's why only Jesus could be the payment for the sins of the world. Through Him, we can be forgiven. Romans 6:23 says: *For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*



**SCAN HERE TO LISTEN WHEREVER YOU ARE!**

## SING

Listen to this playlist throughout the series to rejoice!

**Talk About**