

Mini-VBS: Sunday, August 8, 2021 (2-4pm)
“FORGIVE S’MORE”

“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” –Ephesians 4:32

- I. Welcome & Opening Prayer (repeat after me):
Repeat Prayer: “Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is, in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us, our trespasses, as we forgive, those who trespass, against us. And lead us not, into temptation, but deliver us, from evil. For Thine is, the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and ever, Amen.”
- II. **Story:** Open the *Little Critters* book (Mercer Mayer) to page 73. Put on your best ears and listen as I read “We All Need Forgiveness”. Look for the spider and the mouse.
- III. Questions:
 - A. Accidents happen. When have you, like Little Critter, needed to say, “I’m Sorry”?
 - B. When has someone, like Little Sister, needed your forgiveness?
 - C. Which is easier, to ask for forgiveness or to forgive someone?
 - D. Little Critter was having a challenging day. Share a story of one of your most difficult days when everything seemed to go wrong.
 - E. Mom tells Little Critter that forgiving others makes us feel better. Have you found this to be true?
 - F. What is the secret to being happy?
- IV. **Game Play:** This is basically a variation of "Marco Polo." Ask one child to wear a blindfold and try to find the rest of the group. The student that is "it" says, "**I'm Sorry,**" and the rest of the group has to say, "It's Okay!" The game continues until the kid that is "it" finds everyone.
- V. **Craft Project:** “Forgive” Friendship Bracelet. Make a bracelet for yourself. Wear it as a reminder that we all need forgiveness. It’s good to say, “I’m sorry.” It’s good to say and to hear, “I forgive you!”
- VI. Snack Time: Forgive and Forgive S’MORE. Enjoy the tasty treat!
- VII. **Bible Connection:** Read Matthew 18:21-35. “*The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant*”. We all need forgiveness. How often must I

forgive? A Talent was about 20 years' wages. A Denarius was a day's wage. Have you heard the phrase, "Three strikes & you're out?" Jesus tells a story about forgiveness. What is the main message of this parable? Why do we all need forgiveness? What happens if we don't forgive?

Matthew 18:21 Then Peter came up and said to Jesus, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times." 23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. 24 When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. 32 Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, 11 until he should pay all his debt. 35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

- Colossians 3:13 says: "Bear with each other & forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you".

- SONG: Jesus loves me!

1. Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong! They are weak, but He is strong. **Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

2. Jesus loves me! He who died; Heaven's gate to open wide; He will wash away my sin, Let His little child come in. **Refrain**

3. Jesus loves me! He will stay! Close beside me all the way; Thou hast bled and died for me, I will henceforth live for Thee. **Refrain**

VIII. **Closing Story**: "Am I Forgiving?" By Jeannie St John Taylor

IX. Thank You and Closing Prayer: Dear Jesus, thanks for always loving us, and forgiving us. Help us to love and forgive others, the way you love and forgive us. Amen.

Forgiveness Coloring Page



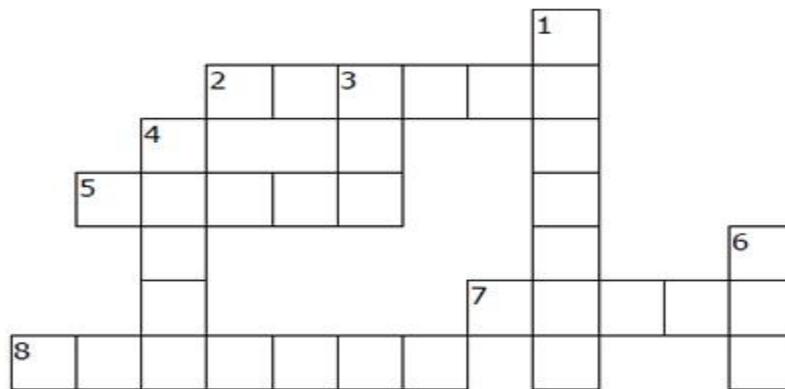
Keep on Forgiving

Crossword

Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 18:21-22



ACROSS

- 2. A statement given in reply to a question
- 5. The number that is equal to six plus one
- 7. The Son of God
- 8. To pardon someone for doing something wrong

DOWN

- 1. A male with the same parents as someone else
- 3. To break God's law
- 4. A fisherman who became one of Jesus' disciples
- 6. To seek an answer to a question

SEVEN	ASK	PETER	JESUS
BROTHER	FORGIVE	ANSWER	SIN

Keep on Forgiving

Word Search

Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" Matthew 18:21 (NLT)

Based on Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)



H S L B N L O R D L L P K L P
B V I S I E X K L X W H S E W
D S U P T B N G O I I B N L F
F E Y Q I Z G C R T I M E S O
R V C C M E Y G E V U L O C R
X E M I E D S M A N Y Y I H G
W N A H S U D N S M A Z C B I
R Z I U S J K W C X R S Q H V
C Z L E A X W W L P H O K Y E
V S J I W H O C S M B P I E P
C O O Y J D A J Y L H I Z W D
Q F H P E T E R E V O F M D S
S I N S P S P Y F E W U H Z V
D N L W R B Q F I K Z D Q D W
N B R O T H E R W A B U X K N

MANY
SEVEN
ASKED

SINS
TIMES
BROTHER

PETER
JESUS
LORD

FORGIVE
TIMES
HOW

Seventy Times Seven

Peter asked Jesus if he should forgive someone seven times. Jesus answered, "Not seven times but seventy times seven."

We should go on-forgiving if a person is sorry for what he or she has done.

Use the code to find a verse about forgiveness. (See Col. 3:13.)

