



This term, we will be focussing on the Christian Value FORGIVENESS. We hope you have fun learning and exploring together.



'Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive everyone who sins against us.' (Luke 11:4)

TALK ABOUT

**Talk about a time when you have forgiven another.
Has there ever been an occasion when you were not forgiven?
Are some things easier to forgive than others?
What would you find hard to forgive?
Is forgiveness difficult?
Why do you think this is?
How could you turn to Jesus to help you to forgive?**

READ TOGETHER ...

THE PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

Peter, one of Jesus' apostles, came to Him and asked Him a question. "Lord, how many times should I forgive someone when they do something wrong to me?"

Jesus knew that we should always forgive someone if they are sorry for what they have done. Instead of saying "always", Jesus said, "Peter, you should forgive someone seventy-seven times!"

Then Jesus told Peter a parable to help him understand how important it is to forgive someone when they are sorry.

Once, there was a very rich king. He had many servants who worked for him. Some servants were in charge of lots of the king's money. They were also in charge of other servants.

The king checked to see if one of his servants cared for the money. When the king checked on the money, he discovered that his servant had not paid the bills but had borrowed the money for himself. It was not just a little money. The servant had borrowed thousands and thousands of denarii (the currency of the time) He had borrowed so much money that he could never pay it back. This man had a huge debt.

At first, the king decided the only way to get his money back was to sell the servant and all of his family as slaves. The servant was very upset. His wife and children would all have to go and live in different places. They might never see each other again. The servant begged the king to forgive him for what he had done. He begged and begged him not to sell his family as slaves.

The king felt sorry for the servant. He decided to forgive the servant for borrowing thousands and thousands of denarii. He even told the servant he would not have to repay the money.

Do you think the servant was happy? Do you think he was so happy that he treated everyone nicely that day? No, he did not.

When the servant left the king, he found another servant who owed him money. The servant only owed this man a few denarii. His debt was very small. Even though the king had been nice to him, the servant grabbed this man and began to choke him.

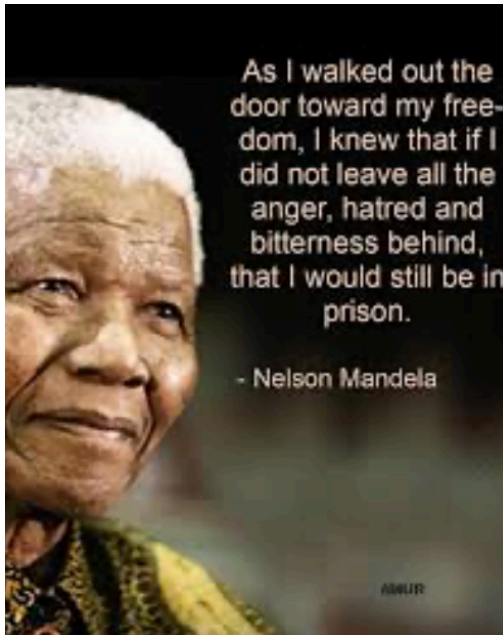
He threw the man in prison and told him he would have to stay until he paid back the few denarii.

Some of the other servants heard what had happened and went and told the king. What do you think the king thought? He had forgiven the servant a huge debt, but the servant could not forgive another, even a small debt. The king was very angry and threw the man in prison. He would have to stay in prison until the debt was paid.

The parable means that God has forgiven us for everything we have ever done wrong to him. He has forgiven us a huge debt! Now, He wants us to forgive people when they are sorry for the bad things they do to us.

Forgiveness in action - Nelson Mandela fought for black people to be treated fairly in South Africa but was sentenced to life imprisonment for his actions. He was held captive for 27 long years but never gave up hope of a fairer world, and never stopped working for freedom for himself and equality in his country. Eventually he was freed in 1990 and continued negotiating for the rights of black people. In 1994, he was elected prime minister of South Africa. His words about forgiveness are a lesson to us all.

WORDS OF WISDOM

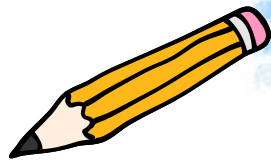


Family Activity

Find a piece of paper and draw around your hand. Think about why it can be important to forgive someone and write it on the palm of the hand. On each finger or thumb, write a way we can forgive someone. Colour and decorate your forgiving fingers. Cut out your hand shape and use it as a reminder when you need to forgive yourself or someone else.



QUIZ TIME



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

- JAIL
- GOSPEL
- FAITH
- MONEY
- UNFORGIVING
- FORGIVENESS
- KING
- COLOSSIANS
- PARABLE
- SERVANT
- MATTHEW
- DENARII
- WEALTH

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
Colossians 3:13

