

April 5, 2020

**FORGIVENESS:** *God's gift to us through Jesus!*

# Forgiveness

**GOD'S GIFT TO US  
THROUGH JESUS!**

## BIG IDEA

**Jesus showed us how to forgive.**

## BIBLE STORY

Luke 22:31-34, 54-62; John 21:15-19

## REMEMBER VERSE

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."  
**- Ephesians 4:32**

## BIBLE STORY

### VIDEO TEACHING •

Today, we are going to talk about someone who was one of Jesus's good friends, Peter. Peter made a few mistakes in his friendship with Jesus, but Jesus had compassion towards Peter. Jesus even forgave Peter before Peter committed an act against Him!

Peter was a fisherman before he met Jesus, but when Peter encountered Jesus, Peter left behind everything to follow Jesus and become His disciple (Matthew 4:18-20). Later, in Luke 22, we read that Jesus shares a meal with his disciples before he is arrested and placed on the cross. During the last supper, Jesus tells His disciples that He is about to suffer on behalf of all people, but that He desires His disciples to carry on the Truth after He dies, resurrects, and returns to Heaven.

During this dinner, Jesus addresses Peter specifically, telling Peter that He had prayed that Peter's faith may not fail. In Luke 22:32, Jesus says to Peter: "When you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." Why did Jesus say this to Peter? You see, through Peter and many others, **"Jesus showed us how to forgive."** Check out Passion Kids Online to learn more!

## RESPONSE TIME

### STUDYING GOD'S WORD •

During Passion Kids Online, we learned that, **"Jesus showed us how to forgive."** Grab a bible, and encourage your children to find Luke 22:31-34, Luke 22:54-62, and John 21:15-19. Invite your family to take turns reading the verses. Lead them through the following questions:

- In Luke 22:31-34, what does Jesus say to Simon Peter? Why does Jesus say: "When you have turned back, strengthen your brothers?"
- Jesus told Peter that he would deny Jesus three times. What does the word "deny" mean? How would you feel if one of your best friends denied you?
- How did Peter feel when he realized he sinned against Jesus?
- Jesus knows that we all make mistakes and mess up. What mistakes did Peter make? How did Jesus respond to Peter's mistakes? (John 21:15-19; forgiveness)
- What happened to Peter after Jesus forgave him for his mistakes? (Peter was one of the leaders who built the Church!)
- Do our mistakes and failures change the way Jesus loves us? Like Peter, does our sin stop us from being able to help others to know who Jesus is?
- How do you feel when you make a mistake or mess up? What can you do with those feelings?
- Will Jesus forgive us every single time we ask for forgiveness? How do we know this to be true? (Because of the cross!)

### PRAYER •

Prayer is when we talk to God directly. Spend time in prayer with your family, asking for any prayer requests. Encourage your children to pray with and for others. To end prayer time today, read **Ephesians 1:7** with your family.

## REMEMBER VERSE ACTIVITY

*Materials Needed: pieces of paper/cards, writing utensil*

**DO** • Before the game begins, write one word of the Remember Verse, Ephesians 4:32, on each card. Then, lay out the Remember Verse cards, and as a family, say the Remember Verse together. Then take away a couple of words (cards). As the words start to disappear from the Remember Verse, invite everyone to continue reading Ephesians 4:32, filling in the missing blanks. Continue until the family states the entire Remember Verse without any help.

**SAY** • How are we doing memorizing the Remember Verse? Who knows why we spend time remembering Scripture? We spend time memorizing God's Word so that His Word will always be in our hearts. We get to know God more when we open our hearts and listen to His Holy Spirit through the words we memorize. Let's play a game with our Remember Verse, Ephesians 4:32!

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

### **Option #1: "Family Breakfast"**

*Materials Needed: bible*

**DO** • Choose a morning to enjoy a family breakfast together. Allow the family to choose the menu together, and invite your children to help you prepare the meal. During breakfast, reread John 21:15-19.

**SAY** • While reading John 21:15-19 together as a family, encourage conversation around the forgiveness we can receive from Jesus. Just like Jesus forgave Peter, He forgives us today, over and over again. Just like Jesus invited Peter to follow Him, Jesus invites us to follow Him and to live our lives in a way that points others to Him.

### **Option #2: "Even when..."**

*Materials Needed: piece of paper (one per family member), writing utensils*

**DO** • Hand out one piece of paper to each family member. Direct them to fold the paper in half lengthwise, creating two columns. Have everyone write, "Even when..." at the top of the first column and "Jesus forgives me and loves me" at the top of the second column. Invite everyone to write some mistakes that they have made under the "Even when..." column. Then invite them to write "Jesus forgives me and loves me" under the second column. Emphasize the importance of the second column, referencing Jesus dying on the cross for all of our sins.

**SAY** • Today, we heard that Peter, one of Jesus's disciples, denied knowing Jesus three times. How do you think Peter felt after denying Jesus? Yes, he was very upset and sad. In fact, Luke 22:62 states, "And he went outside and wept bitterly." But, was that the end of the story? No way! After Jesus died and rose again, He visited with Peter, forgave him, and asked Peter to lead His Church. **"Jesus showed us how to forgive!"**

Have you ever messed up? Have you ever done the wrong thing? We have all messed up and done the wrong thing. How did you feel when you messed up? Just like Peter, you probably felt sad and ashamed. But there is Good News!! When we go to Jesus and ask for forgiveness, He forgives us every single time, no matter what!

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

### Option #3: “Breakfast with Jesus”

*Materials Needed: piece of paper (one per family member), colored writing utensils*

**DO** • Invite everyone to imagine having breakfast with Jesus. Where would they go? What would they talk about? What would they eat? Invite everyone to draw a picture of their breakfast with Jesus. Once everyone is done, invite the kids to share their picture with everyone.

**SAY** • After hearing our story today, how do you think Peter felt when he was having breakfast with Jesus? How do you think Peter felt when he knew Jesus had forgiven him? If you had the chance to have breakfast with Jesus, I wonder where you would go? What would you talk about? What would you eat? Let’s all draw a picture of what our breakfast with Jesus would look like.