

# CITY LG- March 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>

**Bible Story:** Older Brother • *Luke 15:21-32*

**Bottom Line:** When you don't forgive, you miss out.

**Memory Verse:** "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." *Colossians 3:13, NIV*

**Life App:** Forgiveness—deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay.

## CG: Pre-Show

### WORSHIP:

ALIVE

LOOK AT ME

"Hey Kids! Let's worship! Our first song is Alive! God's love is so amazing – He is always there for us. When we choose to follow Him, He celebrates! Let's Go! Great job! Our second song is our theme song for the month, it's Look At Me. We want other's to see God's love in us..... Great job!

Let's pray. God, thank you for loving us so much. Thank you for always forgiving us. We love you. Amen."

## LARGE GROUP

"Hey Parkview Kids, how are you doing today? (*Pause for response*). Awesome, my name is [Host's name] and welcome to the City. I am so glad that you are here today. If it's your very first time, we really want to welcome you. Today, we are going to be playing a game called Hammer, Sprinkler, Paintbrush. Here are the rules.

**Hammer, sprinkler, paintbrush.** This game will be like Simon says. You will have the kids pick between three actions either a hammer, sprinkler, or paintbrush. If they pick the hammer, they will make a hammering motion with their hand, if they pick sprinkler, they are to do the "sprinkler" dance move, and if they pick paintbrush, they will wave their hand up and down in a painting motion. You, a child, or another leader will turn their back to the audience while they pick one of three. Give them a few seconds to pick which one they want to go with. Once the leader turns around they will do one of the motions, if they match the leader, those kids have to sit down. The goal is to not match the leader. Play until one kid remains, or play a few rounds and call everyone back in. Play as long as time allows.

"If you haven't been with us the last few weeks, we are in the middle of our series called Fix It Up. Now when you hear fix it up, often times we think of something like a sink, car, or even a house. You might have seen someone in your house that has carried around one of these things. (*pull out hammer*)

"Hammers are an essential tool for every household. They have been around for 1,000s of years and are designed to help pound nails into boards. The hammers that we have today are a little different. You can not only build stuff with hammers, you can also break stuff with them as well."

"Sometimes, breaking is just as fun as building, am I right? I mean that's one of the main reasons why we build sand castles. We like to build them and then knock them down! Here is a quick video about breaking stuff. (*stage on*)."

## CG: Breaking video.

"Am I right? Isn't that awesome? We can either build stuff or break stuff. However, some stuff isn't awesome to break. Like an arm, you're favorite toy, or a friendship. We can either break them down or build them up. Sometimes, we don't even mean to break them down, it just happens."

"Maybe you were being really careful about playing with a toy your brother or sister had and accidentally dropped it on the ground. Maybe, you were playing a sport with your friends and ran into someone else. You didn't mean to do either one of those things, but they just happened. When we do those things, we might break our friendships as well. To build it back up, we need this thing called forgiveness. Here is our definition."

#### **CG: Forgiveness Slide**

"Forgiveness is deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay. Let's say that together!"  
(Repeat Slide).

"Forgiveness is the bricks that we need to help rebuild our friendships. When we forgive someone else or ask for forgiveness, we are rebuilding our broken relationship with that person. Sometimes there are people we don't want to forgive, like a bully, a classmate, or maybe even a sibling. Well, today's story can help us see whether or not we should still forgive that person."

#### **SETTING UP THE STORY**

"If you weren't here last week. We were learning about a parable of Jesus. A parable is a made up story that Jesus told people so people could better understand what God wanted them to do. We heard a story about two brothers. You may remember the first half from last week. Well, this is what happened afterwards. So face towards the screen and check out today's story."

#### **CG: Fix It Up Story Week 3**

#### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

"Man that's a bummer. The older brother completely missed out on the celebration at the party. All he had to do was stop thinking of only himself. His younger brother didn't even take anything from him. If anything, his dad should be angry. He was also upset that he didn't get his DAD'S calf. It wasn't even his cow, it was his dad's cow!"

"Now, believe it or not, sometimes we can be just like the older brother. No, we aren't trying to get a cow from someone. Although maybe you are."

"No, instead, when we don't forgive someone else, we miss out. Yeah, think about it. When you forgive someone, you are saying to them 'I still want to be your friend.' The same thing happens when you ask for forgiveness. We also gain the joy, peace and trust of our friend. These are all things that will help you become a better friend, sibling and teammate. And that's what today's bottom line is"

#### **CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**"[Bottom Line] When you don't forgive, you miss out.** Say that with me." (repeat slide)

"You miss out on so much. You miss out on building new friendships, stronger friends, having fun, being happy, not being angry and not being sad."

"Now, does that mean we should forgive everyone? Well, yeah. If you don't forgive a bully, they still can make you upset and you are more worried about them than being joyful. It's like you choose to be trapped by them rather than setting yourself free. When you let go, you see that what they say about you doesn't really matter. They will probably leave you alone when they see it doesn't bother you anymore. It kind of reminds me of our Memory Verse."

#### **CG: Memory Verse**

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the

Lord forgave you.” *Colossians 3:13, NIV*

“We are to forgive other people, just like God forgave us. It’s super hard to forgive someone at first. We all struggle with it. However, if you can remember to yourself ‘I don’t want to miss out by not forgiving’ and remember God’s forgiveness, I promise you that it will be easier. You will see quickly that forgiving others is way easier and better than getting revenge. Let’s pray together.”

### **Pray**

“God, sometimes it’s really hard for us to forgive. It’s especially hard when something really unfair happens to us. But You forgive us all the time, no matter what. And we want to do the same thing. We want to forgive so we don’t miss out. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.

*Dismiss children to their small groups.*