

Alley SG- March 11th/12th

Bible Story: Lost Son • *Luke 15:11-24*

Bottom Line: Everyone needs to be forgiven, even me.

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.

Rescued!

What You Need: “Bible Story Cards” and “Sum It Up Cards” Activity Pages, Bibles

What You Do:

- Divide kids into teams of two or three. Give each team a set of “Bible Story Cards,” a set of “Sum It Up Cards,” and a Bible.
- Teams work together reading the verses on the “Bible Story Cards” and matching them up with the “Sum It Up Cards.”
- When teams are finished, review their answers. See if everyone got the same pairings.
- Discuss the “Sum It Up Cards.”

What You Say:

- How would you sum up today’s story in your own words?
- What does “hitting rock bottom,” mean? (*You are at the lowest of the low*).
- What did the father do when he realized his Son was coming home? (*Ran to him and threw him a party*).
- Is there a way for us to get to heaven with out God’s forgiveness? (*No*) What do we have to do to gain God’s forgiveness? (*Ask and choose to follow him*).
- Why do you think we need to confess our sins to God? (*to let God know we are sorry; so we don’t have to carry the guilt*).
- **[Bottom Line] everyone needs to be forgiven, even me.**

All At Once

What You Need: Hula hoop, small ball

What You Do:

- Choose one kid to come to the front of the group. You will have a series of things that you want them to hold onto and try to complete. However, your goal is to get them to mess up by making them unable to complete it the task.
- Some of these combinations could be juggling while saying the pledge of allegiance or hula hooping while telling a story. Or jumping while bouncing a ball.
- When they fail, have another kid from the group come up and perform another task.

What You Say:

- What’s a time you thought you did something perfectly?
- Have you ever seen someone that looks like they have it “all together”? Describe them?
- Do you think someone like that needs forgiveness? Why or why not?

- What does God say about our mess-ups and what does He do? (*we have all messed up and need God's forgiveness*) (*He forgives us*).
- What are we supposed to do after God forgives us? (*We choose to follow God and we get to go to heaven*).
- **[Bottom Line] everyone needs to be forgiven, even me.**

Pray

What You Need:

What You Do:

- Guide kids to pray:
 - Thank God that He does what He says He will and we can trust Him no matter what.
 - Give kids time to silently confess to God anything they feel they need to say to Him.
 - Thank God for His forgiveness.
 - Ask for His help to remember everyone needs to be forgiven.

Extra Activity

Memory Verse Relay

What You Need: 2 sets of "Memory Verse" cards, Bibles, stopwatch (optional)

What You Do:

- Have kids split into two teams.
- Scatter the cards on the other side of the room. Have the kids race to get the memory cards as fast as they can.
- Once they have all the cards, have them open their Bibles and look up the Bible Verse. (look below for instructions of how to look up a verse).
- The first team to put the verse together wins the game.
 - Feel free to time the kids to see who can get the verse in order first.
- Once you are finished ask these following questions.

What You Say:

- What words in this verse pop out at you?
- What do you think it means to bear with someone? (*To put up with or to be patient*). What are some ways that we might be patient with other people?
- What reason does this verse give for us to forgive others? (*The Lord forgave us*).
- What makes forgiving EVERYONE difficult sometimes? (*We don't like some people; we don't trust them; they aren't really sorry*).
- **[Bottom Line] everyone needs to be forgiven, even me.**