

# City SG -September 16 & 17, 2017

**Bible Story:** Forgive and Let By (Forgive One Another) • *Colossians 3:13, John 21:1-17 (Supporting: John 18:1-27)*

**Bottom Line:** Friends forgive one another

**Memory Verse:** "A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes." *Proverbs 17:17 NIV*

## Just for Fun...ASK:

- What is your favorite kind of food? What is your least favorite kind of food?
- What is your favorite candy? What is your least favorite?

## 1. Feed Me, Peter

**What You Need:** 2 buckets, lamb and sheep, prepared dice, pom poms, Bible

### What You Do:

- Read John 21:15-17 with the group, or let them recap the story together
- Place the lamb in front of one of the buckets and do the same for sheep
- Set out the pom poms
- Tell kids they will take turns rolling the dice
- Depending on what the dice says, they will feed the lamb, feed the sheep, care for the lamb, or care for the sheep.
- To "feed", they will toss pom poms in the bucket from a short distance away until they get at least one in
- To "care", they will pick up the animal, pet it and sing it a lullaby-type song. (This will be sure to get some laughs over the silliness)
- Play until each kid has had a turn. Encourage them to "ham it up" and have fun caring for and feeding the animals!

### What You Say:

"When Jesus asked Peter to take care of and feed his lambs, did He literally mean to ask Peter to take care of some farm animals? (*Wait for responses. See if anyone can explain the metaphor and what Jesus actually meant.*) Jesus was saying to Peter, 'I trust you to take care of something precious.' Our friends are just as precious to Jesus as Peter was, and one of the best ways to care for them is to forgive them when they do something wrong. And forgiveness doesn't just mean we say, 'It's okay,' and then stay mad. Forgiveness means we move on and show that friend we trust them again.

## 2. Odds of Forgiveness

**What You Need:** Six-sided die

### What You Do:

Tell the group they're going to create a story together, one sentence at a time.

- The story will be about an imaginary friend named Peter. (Or they can make up whatever name they want, as long as it's not the actual name of someone in your group!)
- During their turn, each kid will state something that Peter did wrong.
  - For example: "Peter borrowed my pencil and broke it."
- Then the story passes to the next person who rolls the die.
  - If the person rolls anything except a six, he or she has to repeat all of the previous things that Peter did and then add one.
  - For example: "Peter borrowed my pencil and broke it. Then Peter stepped on my toe."
- Then the die and the story pass to the next person.
- If someone rolls a six at any point, he repeats all the previous things that Peter did, but then says, "I forgive Peter and don't have to think about those things anymore."
  - For example: "Peter borrowed my pencil and broke it. Then Peter stepped on my toe. But I forgave Peter, so I don't have to think about all those things he did anymore."

- The next person will start over with a new story about Peter (or let the group choose a new name if you want).

### **What You Say:**

“When we don’t forgive our friends it can be exhausting just remembering all the things that they did to make us angry. That’s one reason it’s better to forgive our friends. When someone does something to hurt us, we can’t actually erase what they did from our mind, but if we truly forgive them we free ourselves from having to always think about it and be angry about it. Jesus wants us to extend His forgiveness to others as much for our sake as for their own. Remember, **[Bottom Line] friends forgive one another.**”

### **3. Two More Scoops of Memory**

**What You Need:** “Memory Verse/Food Cards (2 per bin), plastic tweezers (2 per group), 2 buckets full of pom-poms (use buckets and pom poms from activity 1)

#### **What You Do:**

- Pour pom poms in bucket and bury one set of “Memory Verse/Food Cards” in each bucket. Make sure they are scattered around randomly with some near the top and some way at the bottom.
- Divide the group into two teams and assign a bucket to each team.
- Give 2 kids plastic tweezers (one for each team)
- Outline the rules of the game:
  - When you say, “Go!” each team will start digging through the pom poms to find three cards.
  - They must pull out the first three cards they find (as a team) and they can only move the pom poms with a tweezer in one hand.
  - When they find three cards, they put them in the approximate spots in verse order, including the “nonsense” food words.
  - Before teams can keep searching for the rest of the cards, they must read the verse with the food words in it without laughing, no matter how silly it sounds.
  - After reading the verse with the food words, they can try again, digging out three more cards, to find the right words and get them in place.
  - The first group to say the verse all together wins.
- You can play multiple rounds, if you wish.

### **What You Say:**

“That was a whole stew of wrong words, but you did a good job finding the right words among all those wrong words! As we work on remembering our verse, we should also remember that our verse teaches us about what we are learning this month. **[Bottom Line] Friends forgive one another.** That’s what it means to love at all times and be there for a friend when they need you.”

### **Pray and Dismiss**

#### **What You Do:**

Ask the kids to sit quietly and ask God to bring to mind anyone they might not have forgiven for something—anything they might be holding onto or might be repeatedly getting mad about.

- If they think of someone who they need to forgive, have them pray silently and ask God to help them extend His forgiveness to that person.
- Then tell kids to ask God to reveal if they need to ask anyone to forgive them.
- If the kids think of someone they need to ask forgiveness from, have them pray silently to God and ask for help to go to that person and ask forgiveness.

### **What You Say:**

“Forgiving others and asking forgiveness was so important that Jesus told people that it could interfere with their ability to worship God! It is important for us to forgive and ask for forgiveness as followers of Jesus.

**[Bottom Line] Friends forgive one another.”**

*As adults arrive to pick up, make sure to hand out this week’s Parent Cue.*