

CITY SG July 5-6, 2025

Due to summer scheduling, these activities can be done in small groups or in one large group.

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: Fourth of July activity sheets

What You Do:

- Great each kid by name and with a high five as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Set out the 4th of July fun sheets
- Ask kids what they did for the 4th of July holiday while they complete the activity sheets.

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Path to Forgiveness

What You Need: Bible, "Forgiveness Path" Activity Page (one per kid), pens (or pencils), and markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Forgiveness Path" Activity Page and a pen.
- Instruct the kids to write their names on the page.
- Set out the coloring supplies for the groups to share.
- Explain to the kids that they will complete a forgiveness adventure!
- Refer to your own "Forgiveness Path" Activity Page as you ask the following questions and prompt them to do the following.
 - *"Think about a time someone hurt you. Tell God about it. Draw a picture in that first box to tell God about it." (Give the kids a few minutes to draw.)*
 - *"How did it make you feel?" (Lead the kids to circle the feelings that apply to them in prompt 2.)*
 - *"Do something that helps you feel calm." (Point out the "Do something that helps you feel calm" section, read it to the kids, and give the kids a few moments to draw their response.)*
 - *"What helps you remember that Jesus forgives you?" (Direct the kids to the fourth circle. Read the section. Point out the QR code for the Orange Kids Music song: "Lift My Voice" and ask the kids to have a parent help them scan it at home. Also, look up the 1 John 1:9 in the Bible and help kids fill in the blank.)*
 - *"Remember this . . ." (Point out the "Remember this . . ." section and read it to the group.)*
- Direct the kids to the last box.
- Encourage the kids to write or draw how it makes them feel to know that Jesus forgives them no matter what!
- If the kids need more time, give the kids more time to fill out their "Forgiveness Path" Activity Pages.
- Once they're finished, encourage the kids to share what they wrote and drew with the kid(s) in their group.
- Explain to the kids that they can use the prompts on this sheet at home to help them navigate forgiveness.
- Encourage the kids that God can handle all of their big feelings and wants to help them **forgive one another!**
- Say, "Forgiveness isn't always easy, and sometimes we're not sure what to do. But guess what? We don't have to figure it out alone. God sends the Holy Spirit to live with us and guide us when we choose to follow Jesus! We can ask God to help us forgive and focus on Jesus' love for us."

2. Memory Verse Craft

What You Need: frame (one per student), decorating supplies, Memory verse cards, scotch tape

What You Do:

- Read this month's memory verse to the group, "*Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had.*" Romans 15:5
- Say this, "Basically the verse is saying this: God loves to help and encourage us! And, God wants us to do the same for others. God wants us to treat others with kindness and patience, just like Jesus did."
- Pass out one frame and one memory verse card to each child.
- Place the decorating supplies out to share.
- Encourage them to decorate their frame.
- Pass out the tape and have kids tape the verse card to the back of the frame. Younger kids will need help.
- Tell kids to put these bright frames somewhere at home where they will see this verse and be reminded them that we can show others what Jesus is like when we **forgive one another!**

3. Discussion Questions

- What makes it hard to forgive?
- Use a Bible to read Colossians 3:13b. What do you think this verse means?
- Despite all that Peter had done, Jesus forgave him. What does that teach us about how we should forgive others?
- Can you think of a time when someone forgave you for something you did? How did it feel?

4. Extra time Activity Sheets

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, "Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? (*Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises*)"

"Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, for all of us. Thank You for loving us and forgiving us—no matter the mistake! Please help us all 'Live it Out' and **forgive one another** just like You forgive us. Help us boldly go out this week and share Your love and kindness with the world around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share their "forgiveness path." Share with the adults that kids can use this page to remind them who Jesus is, help them navigate forgiveness, and love like Jesus!