

City LG-March 21st-22nd, 2020

Bible Story: Please Forgive Me (The Story of the Lost Son) • *Luke 15:11-24*

Bottom Line: Everyone needs to be forgiven.

Memory Verse: *Put up with one another. Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13 (NirV)*

CG: Countdown Video

WORSHIP: “Higher than the Sky” and “Won’t Let Go”

Worship Leader prays...

CG: Forgiveness Slide

CG: Camp Manitoqua Slide

CG: Camp Manitoqua Promo Video

“Camp Manitoqua is a great opportunity for you to meet new friends and learn more about Jesus! You don’t want to miss it! All of the information is on this card (*show postcard*). Make sure you grab one before you leave today!”

“Hello, friends! I’m excited to tell you an amazing story of forgiveness that we can find in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) This is a story that Jesus told in order to help people understand something important.

“Let me explain what was happening around that time. Everywhere Jesus went, there were always crowds of people who followed Him. The religious leaders at that time were angry that Jesus chose to hang out with everyone—even with people who had done wrong things. These religious leaders believed that they were better at keeping all the rules than everyone else . . . so they thought they were closer to God than everyone else. Jesus knew that wasn’t true. So, He told them a story, otherwise known as a parable. This parable would help them understand what He meant. That’s what today’s video is all about today. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 7:00)

“The younger son had messed up. He really needed forgiveness from his father. But the truth is, we ALL need forgiveness! All of us have messed up. All of us have sinned.

“Jesus told that story because He wanted the religious leaders to understand that ALL of us need to be forgiven. And God is always ready to forgive us, no matter what we’ve done wrong!”

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Everyone needs to be forgiven.

“And God is always there to welcome us home. Let’s pray and thank God for forgiving us.”

Pray: “God, thank You for this story that Jesus told about the younger son and the father. All of us mess up like the son did. But You are our Father who always forgives us and welcomes us home. Thank You for helping us understand what forgiveness is and that we all need it. Thank You that Jesus paid the price for our sins so we can all be forgiven! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“See, God is like the father in the story. He’s always willing to forgive us when we mess up. We’re like the younger son in the story. All of us have sinned and made bad choices. But God loves us so much that He will ALWAYS be there to welcome us home. **We can trust Him no matter what.** We can come back to Him and

know for sure that we'll find His love and forgiveness.

"God has had a plan to rescue us from the very beginning. He knew that we would sin and make mistakes. He knew that sin would separate us from God. That's why He sent Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus was the answer God had planned all along. When we believe in Jesus and believe that He died on the cross for us, then we're no longer separated from Him. We can receive His love and forgiveness and have a relationship with Him that will never end.

"Remember:

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] "Everyone needs to be forgiven.

"That means we can also show forgiveness to others because of the amazing forgiveness God has given us. When your little brother sneaks into your room, when your friend says something that hurts your feelings, and even when your teacher gives lots of homework, you can forgive because you know what Jesus has done for you.

"I bet you can think of some other times when you need to forgive, too. Let's keep the conversation going as we head to Small Group! Before we dismiss, let's worship God with our offering!"

Offering Time:

"Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else's life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called 'Missions of Hope' to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God's love for them."

Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

"(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya. Here's a picture of the school!"

CG: MOHI JPEG

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container while our Offering Video plays! (*show offering container*)."

CG: Offering Video (Runtime: 2:00)

Dismiss kids to their small groups.