

# City LG-March 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Bible Story:** I Don't Want to Miss a Thing (Father and Older Brother) • *Luke 15:21-32*

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

**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: 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!"

**CG: Forgiveness Slide**

**GAME: Plunger Beach Ball Hockey**

**Supplies Needed: 6 plungers, 4 cones, carpet tape, and 10 beach balls (per campus)**

"Hey! What's up, everybody? My name is [your name], and this is The City! It's a great day to be here, because I can promise that none of you have ever played the game we're playing today.

"All month long we're talking about forgiveness. Forgiveness is a real 'do it yourself' project—but not in the usual way, like fixing up a house. Forgiveness is a way that we can fix our relationships . . . and we need God's help to do it!

**CG: Forgiveness Slide**

**"Forgiveness is deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay.**

"Our game today uses a very special D.I.Y. tool. It's a truly amazing invention: the plunger!

*Hold up one of the plungers.*

"Usually you would use a plunger to unclog a toilet. Gross! But don't worry—this one is brand-new, so it's never been used. That's great, because we've got a game to play with it!

"Have you ever played 'Plunger Beach Ball Hockey'? (*Pause.*) Anyone? Anyone at all? Of course, you haven't! But I promise it'll be fun!

"You might have noticed that there's a dividing line right down the middle of the room. (*Point to the tape line.*) The people on the same side of the line as you are on your team! In just a minute, we're going to toss a bunch of beach balls onto the 'field,' and your goal is to get as many as possible to the other side.

"Here's the catch: you can't kick or throw the beach balls to the other side of the line. You've got to get them to your Leaders, who have these handy plungers.

*Hand a plunger to Leaders on each side.*

“Only the Leaders with the plungers can hit the beach balls to the other side—and they have to use the plungers to do it. When time is up, whichever team has the FEWEST beach balls on their side of the line wins! Are you ready? Are you set? Let’s GO!

**CG: 1-Minute Timer Video**

*As soon as the music starts, toss all the beach balls into the field of play. Comment on the action as the kids and Leaders play.*

*When the timer ends, count how many beach balls are on each side, and declare the winning team. Play best out of 3, 5, 7 as time allows. Collect the beach balls and plungers and put them out of sight.*

“That was even more fun than I thought it would be! And now you can tell people you’ve played ‘Plunger Beach Ball Hockey’! Good job everyone! Let’s get started with our talk today!”

**Begin Lesson...**

“Today we’re picking up where we left off in a story that Jesus told. (*Hold up Bible.*) We told the first part of the story last week, so today we’ll take a look and see what happened next.

“When Jesus wanted to share something important, He often told a story to explain what He meant. There were some religious leaders who were upset because Jesus chose to hang out and eat with people who had done wrong things. Jesus knew that these leaders thought they were better than everyone else. So Jesus told a story of a man with two sons. We told the first part of this story last week. Let’s take a look at the second part!”

**CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 6:00)**

“Jesus didn’t tell us if the older brother listened to his father. Did he choose to come inside, forgive his brother, and join the party? I hope so. I know that if he stayed on the outside, he would miss out on so many good things.

“When we don’t forgive, we miss out on what God is doing in our lives . . . and in the lives of the people around us.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line] “When you don’t forgive, you miss out.”**

“Sometimes we don’t FEEL like forgiving someone. Maybe we think it isn’t fair; we don’t feel like they DESERVE forgiveness. But the truth is, all of us have messed up. All of us need forgiveness. God wants us to experience the joy of being forgiven, and He wants us to be able to forgive others, too.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us forgive.”

**Pray:** “God, it’s so clear when we think about Jesus’ story that You want us to forgive. It’s good for the person we forgive, and it’s good for us, too. We were never meant to stay angry and frustrated at people. Please help us not to be unforgiving like the older brother was. Help us to forgive others like You forgive us, so we don’t miss out on all the good things You’re doing in our lives and in the lives of the people around us. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“From the very beginning, God had a plan to fix our relationship with Him. He sent Jesus to be our Savior.

Because of what Jesus did for us, we know we can find forgiveness when we talk to God—no matter what we might have done wrong.

“God wants to help us fix our relationships with each other, too. It’s important to forgive others so you don’t miss out on those friendships. Because it’s true:

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line] “When you don’t forgive, you miss out.”**

“If your best friend hurts your feelings, do you really want to walk away from that relationship? Of course not! You forgive because Jesus forgave you . . . and also because you don’t want to miss out on all the good things that can happen when you and your friend make things right.

“When you have a chance to forgive someone, don’t miss out. **Treat them the way you want to be treated** . . . and forgive! Don’t be afraid to join the party. Let’s worship God with our offering, then head to Small Groups!”

### **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.*