

DIY: Forgiveness is up to you

WEEK
THREE

MARCH 2020

GRADES
K-5

LARGE GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

252 KIDS

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PRELUDE

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BIBLE STORY

Step by Step

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness
Matthew 5:1-2; 23-24

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, NIV

LIFE APP

Forgiveness—Deciding that
someone who has wronged
you doesn't have to pay

BOTTOM LINE

Take the first step
to forgive others.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only
Create the Environment
Monthly Overview

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arrivers
Hopscotch (*Kindergarten and 1st Grade*)
Balancing Act (*2nd and 3rd Grade*)
Just For Fun (*4th and 5th Grade*)

25
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Opener
Bible Story
Worship
Prayer
Closer

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

"Alive" from *At the Top of My Lungs*
"Know You More" from *Can't Stop, Won't Stop*
"Good Good Father" from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 4*

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

For *Kindergarten and 1st Grade*:
Obstacle Course Chain; Freeze Dance; Step by Step
For *2nd and 3rd Grade*:
Who, What, When, Why?; One Step Forward, Two Steps Back; Memory Verse Steppin'
For *4th and 5th Grade*:
Take a Snapshot; Bible Story Extension;
Discussion Questions; Verses to Take with You
Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

GodTime
Parent Cue

GETTING READY

STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

OPENER/CLOSER

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Tool belt for Host (full of tools)
- Craft paper/fishing line Bible timeline and Today's Story Image (*optional*)

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- High-energy dance music, preferably instrumental (a different song/beat for each small group, if possible)

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Slide
- Forgiveness Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- "Tool Time Dance Party" Slide
- Tool Slides
- Blank Tool Slide
- Timeline (*optional*)—CG or printed
- Today's Story Image (*optional*)—CG or printed

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH THE 252 MEDIA PACKAGE):

- Theme Loop
- Countdown (30- or 60-second version)
- Theme
- Theme Transition to Life App
- Life App Transition to Theme

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have CG capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.

- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- A 252 Media Package is available for purchase to go along with each curriculum tier. These graphic motion loops are included in the package. For more information, visit Store.ThinkOrange.com.
- Load as many of the Tool Slides as you need to have one slide for each small group. If you need more than the 18 provided slides, use the blank slide and add additional tool images as needed.

BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Storyteller
- Host
- Bible
- Storyteller's watch (or phone)
- Table
- Three wrapped gift boxes, labeled 1, 2, and 3, containing the following items:
 - Box One: a video game controller
 - Box Two: a soccer ball
 - Box Three: confetti
- A cake inside a cake box (like from a bakery)—ideally decorated like a little boy's birthday cake
- Plastic cake server
- Paper plate
- Plastic fork

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- One Big Story Intro (Video)
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have CG capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Find three boxes that will fit the items that need to go inside. Boxes with separate lids (like banker's

GETTING READY, CONTINUED

boxes) work well because you can wrap the boxes and lids separately.

- The cake box (with cake), cake server, plate, and fork should be preset on a table on the stage.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Worship Leader(s)

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS (SFX):

- "Alive" from *At the Top of My Lungs*
- "Know You More" from *Can't Stop, Won't Stop*
- "Good Good Father" from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 4*

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- "Alive" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through OrangeKidsMusic.com)
- "Know You More" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through OrangeKidsMusic.com)
- "Good Good Father" Live Lyrics Video (available through OrangeKidsMusic.com)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download all songs (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com) and have them ready to use.
- A 252 Media Package is available for purchase to go along with each curriculum tier. The *Live Loud* faith skills video and the Dance Moves Music Video for the monthly worship song are included in the package. For more information, visit Store.ThinkOrange.com.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

FEATURE PRESENTATION: Everything you need to pull off a dynamic weekly Large Group experience, including video Bible presentations to complement 252 Kids and

252 Preteen curriculum. Available for purchase through Store.ThinkOrange.com.

Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with these videos so you can plug and play the way you need to each week.

For 252 Kids (kindergarten through 3rd grade):

- 252 Story brings you the Bible story in a simple and direct way through a professional Storyteller accompanied by engaging visuals.
- *Also included:* Intro and Outro videos with a character Host. The Intros set up the Bible story, while the Outros connect the story to the weekly Bottom Line. These videos are interchangeable with the live Opener and Closer, so you can use them to bookend either a live Storyteller or 252 Story.

For 252 Preteen (4th and 5th grade):

- In *The So & So Show*, two Hosts walk you through a contemporary and comedic presentation of the Bible story. This YouTube-style show sets up the story and also connects it to the weekly Key Question for preteens. It's interchangeable with the live Opener, Story, and Closer in our 252 Kids scripts. Consider using if you'd like to create a separate Preteen environment, or if you have a majority of older kids in your K-5th grade room.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

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GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Step by Step

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness
Matthew 5:1-2; 23-24

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

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, NIV

Host enters, wearing the tool belt.

Optional Video (Media Package): Countdown (30- or 60-second version)

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme

LIFE APP

Forgiveness—Deciding that
someone who has wronged
you doesn't have to pay

OPENER

HOST: "Hey, everyone! It's great to see you. All month long we've been talking about one of the most important tools you could ever need in your tool belt. But it's not a screwdriver or a hacksaw or a pair of pliers. It's forgiveness!"

CG: Forgiveness Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Transition to Life App

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

BOTTOM LINE

Take the first step
to forgive others.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Life App Transition to Theme

"Forgiveness is up to you! You've got to forgive if you want to fix your relationships and make things right. You've got to forgive your friends and family when they mess up, and THEY'VE got to forgive YOU. With God's help, you can make the choice every day to forgive.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

"That might sound like hard work . . . and it is! But that doesn't mean it can't be fun. Since forgiveness is one of the very best tools in our tool belt, I think we should have a little tool-themed dance party right here and now. Get excited for the Tool Time Dance Party!"

CG: "Tool Time Dance Party" Slide

"First, everyone make a circle with your small group.

Give the kids a few seconds to circle up with their small groups.

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10 MINUTES

"While the music plays, keep an eye on the screens. You'll see a series of different tools. When I point to your group, it's your turn to come up with a move that's based on the tool that's on the screen. Your group has to come up with a move and all start doing that move together—in 15 seconds or less! When the rest of us see your awesome move, we'll join in.

"Some of us adults in the room may not be the BEST dancers in the world . . . but I hope you'll forgive us! Let's go!

SFX: High-energy dance music (a different song/beat for each group, if possible)

CG: Tool Slides, in random order (as many slides as you need to give each small group a turn)

"All right. First up, we need a dance for a [name of the tool on screen]. Show us what you've got, [Leader's name]'s group!

Give each group 15 seconds (loosely) to come up with a move and start doing it together. If they get stuck, you can demonstrate some ideas for them. If they can't seem to decide on one move, highlight something that one kid is doing and get everyone in the group to do it.

Once the group has their move established, get the rest of the groups to do it too.

Follow the same pattern to give each small group a turn.

"That was incredible! (Comment on some of the wildest moves.) Now that we're all loosened up, stay standing. Let's have some fun worshipping God!"

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADER: "Get on your feet, because it's time to sing! When you come to know Jesus, you experience His forgiveness. There is nothing like the freedom we have in Him. Let's make His praises loud in this place. Come on—here we go!"

SFX: "Alive" / track 4 from At the Top of My Lungs

Optional Video: "Love One Another" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video

WORSHIP LEADER: "When you spend time with God, you get to know Him better. It's the same as any other relationship. If you want to know someone, you have to spend time with them. In Isaiah 30:21, we can read about how God speaks to His people: *You will hear your Teacher's voice behind you. You will hear it whether you turn to the right or the left. It will say, "Here is the path I want you to take. So walk on it."* (NirV) Let's sing and tell God that we want to know Him more and more every day."

SFX: "Know You More" / track 6 from Can't Stop, Won't Stop

Optional Video: "Know You More" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video

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HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

WORSHIP LEADER: “It’s so important that we understand how loved we are. God has chosen us to be His sons and daughters. He is always perfect and always good. Let’s draw near to Him as we sing this song of worship.”

SFX: “*Good Good Father*” / track 2 from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 4*
Optional Video: “*Good Good Father*” [Live Lyrics Music Video](#)

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

VIDEO: *One Big Story Intro*
CG: *Blank Bottom Line Slide*

STORY

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hi, everyone! Today have another awesome example of forgiveness from Jesus. When Jesus was here on Earth, He taught amazing things, which we can read here in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) He also healed people who were sick. People would follow Jesus everywhere He went, just to see Him and hear what He had to say.

“One time, a great crowd was following Jesus around. So He went up to the side of a mountain and sat down. His disciples came, and He started to teach them.

“Jesus taught about a lot of things that day, and we can find His words in the book of Matthew. (*Hold up Bible.*) He talked about how important it is for us to fix our relationships with each other. Listen to what He said.

Open the Bible to Matthew 5:23-24 (NIRV) and read.

“Suppose you are offering your gift at the altar. And you remember that your brother or sister has something against you. Leave your gift in front of the altar. First go and make peace with them. Then come back and offer your gift.”

“Now, today we don’t offer gifts at God’s altar. That was what people did in the time before Jesus came. It was kind of like what we do today when we pray or worship God together. But what Jesus said that day is still true for us now. If someone is mad at you—if someone has a problem with you—before you do anything else, go and do what you can to make peace with them. Make it RIGHT with them.”

CONTROLLER CONFLICT

STORYTELLER: “Today, that might look like this.

Pause and wait for Host. Look at your watch (or phone).

(A little louder; directed backstage) “I said . . . ‘Today, that might look like this.’

Look around as though you’re expecting someone to enter.

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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

(To audience) "Sorry, everyone. I'm supposed to have some help today. [Host's name], are you coming out? [Host's name]?"

Host comes rushing out, holding Box One.

HOST: "Hey, [Storyteller's name]. I thought you were going to say, 'Today, that might look like this.' And then I was supposed to come out."

STORYTELLER: "I did. Twice."

HOST: "Huh! I must have missed it."

STORYTELLER: "Twice."

Host hands the gift to the Storyteller and exits, unfazed.

Storyteller sighs (amused, not annoyed) and sets the box on the table.

"As I was saying, if we look at what Jesus' words mean today, it might look something like this.

Open the box and hold up the video game controller.

"How many of you may have ever gotten into an argument with a sibling or a friend over a video game? Maybe you were SO into the game that you didn't even notice that you were totally hogging the controller. You never gave your friend a turn. And it made them so MAD because it seemed like you did it on purpose! So what do you do when you're in a situation like that? Probably argue about it, until one of you leaves . . . or until your mom or dad comes in to stop the yelling.

"Video games are fun, but FIGHTING over video games is NOT fun. And honestly, are video games so important that they should hurt your relationship with a friend or family member? Of course not!

"Remember, Jesus said that we should make things right with each other BEFORE we go to God. That's how important forgiveness is. It's important that we take the first step to say, 'I'm sorry.' It's also important for us to be quick to forgive."

Set the video game controller back into Box One.

SOCCER SWAGGER

STORYTELLER: "I believe we've got another example in Box Two."

Host enters, looking proud of himself, with the wrong gift box (Box Three).

HOST: "Here you go! I caught the cue that time, didn't I?"

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STORYTELLER: (Amused) "Yes, you did. But [Host's name], this is the wrong gift. I need Box Two."

HOST: "Oh, right! Let me grab that."

Host exits with Box Three and then quickly returns with Box Two and sets it on the table.

STORYTELLER: "Okay, back to what I was saying. Let's see if this scenario sounds familiar for any of you."

Open Box Two and hold up the soccer ball.

"You're warming up before a soccer game with your team. You've been practicing really hard, and you've figured out how to kick the ball in the air over and over again—without it ever dropping to the ground. (Demonstrate with the soccer ball.) So you kick it around a few times to show your teammates what you can do. But to them, it kind of seems like you're showing off. Later, you notice that no one is passing you the ball in the game, even though you're wide open.

"What do you do in that situation? Do you get mad at your teammates for acting that way? I mean, it's not like you were TRYING to show off. So do you wait for them to come to their senses and apologize? Or do you decide that YOU should be the one to make it right?"

"You can make the first move. You can say that you're sorry for showing off. You can say that you don't want anything to get in the way of your relationship as teammates. Think about what it would be like for your teammates to hear that from you. If you came to them to apologize, do you think they'd be willing to forgive you? I bet they would!"

Set the soccer ball back into Box Two.

THAT TAKES THE CAKE

STORYTELLER: "Now's when I could use Box Three . . ."

Stop and look around like you're expecting Host to enter.

"I guess [Host's name] couldn't hear me. Well, I'll tell you what was supposed to happen with the last box. There's some confetti inside. Let me tell you why . . ."

(Notice the cake box on the table.) "Actually, this could work, too. I'm not sure why there's a cake here on stage, but it'll help you understand what I was going to say."

Use the cake server to start cutting a piece of cake. Put it on the paper plate.

"You see, when you take a step to say you're sorry and ask for forgiveness, or when you forgive someone who's wronged YOU, you make things right. You fix the relationship. And that feels SO good. You turn something that was a big problem into . . . a celebration!"

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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

Hold up the plate with the piece of cake you just cut. Take a bite of cake.

Host enters, carrying Box Three.

HOST: "Hey, [Storyteller's name]. Do you need this yet? (Pause.) Oh . . . and you haven't seen a cake around here, have you? I'm supposed to bring it to my little nephew's birthday party."

Storyteller looks at the audience guiltily.

STORYTELLER: (To Host) "Ummm . . . [Host's name] . . . I don't know how to tell you this . . . but I found your cake. And . . . I'm afraid I ate some of it, too."

HOST: (Surprised, but not angry) "You did? Really?"

STORYTELLER: (To Host) "I did. And I'm really sorry."

HOST: "You know what? It's fine. I promise. My nephew won't mind. (Looking at the cake) It's just missing that one small piece. When I tell him what happened, he'll think it's really funny!"

STORYTELLER: "Wow. That's really nice of you, [Host's name]."

HOST: "Hey, what are friends for? Besides, you didn't get mad at me when I kept missing my cues to bring the boxes out earlier. You told me what happened with the cake, and we're good. I know you didn't mean anything by it."

STORYTELLER: "Well, thanks, [Host's name]. I've got to say, forgiveness feels pretty good."

HOST: "You bet it does, buddy!"

Host opens Box Three and showers Storyteller with confetti.

Host picks up the cake box and exits.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "It can be really hard for us to see where we've messed up. But we can ask God to show us. Sometimes we can just sort of sense that someone is upset at us, but we don't know why. In those moments, we need to have the courage to take the first step and ask."

"When we find out something that we might have done wrong, we might be tempted to try to defend ourselves. We might think about all the reasons why we were right to act the way we did. But if we really want to make things right with someone, we should take what they say seriously. We should be willing to ask for forgiveness."

"If we have a problem with someone, we should do whatever we can to fix the relationship. We should be willing to say we're sorry—to ask for forgiveness. In the same way, we should be willing to forgive when someone has wronged US."

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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“Take the first step to forgive others.

“Don’t let the hurt build up. Don’t hold something against your friend when you could just get it out in the open. With God’s help, we can find the courage to make the first move and make things right.

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

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

PRAY

STORYTELLER: “God, thank You so much for Jesus’ words that help us see things Your way. Help us to do what Jesus said—to take the first step toward fixing our relationships with others. It can be tough to do that when we can’t see what we’ve done wrong or maybe when we don’t FEEL like apologizing. But we know that it’s really important for us to make things right with others. Please help us to choose forgiveness and fix the relationships in our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

CLOSER

HOST: “I’m glad I was able to help [Storyteller’s name] today. I’m even MORE glad that [he/she] forgave me for coming in at the wrong times. It was easy to forgive [him/her] for the whole cake thing; after all, we all make mistakes. We all get frustrated with each other and misunderstand things from time to time.

“But when that happens, we know from what Jesus said that it’s really important for us to make things right. We can ask for forgiveness, and we can forgive when someone wrongs US. We can make the first move by choosing to forgive.

“Remember:

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“Take the first step to forgive others.

“SOMEONE has to go first to make it right. That someone can be you!

CG: Timeline

“You know, before Jesus came, people had to make sacrifices in order to come close to God. But God wanted people to be close to Him all the time! So God solved that problem for us. Jesus gave His life as the ultimate sacrifice. He made it so we could be close to God all the time. Jesus made things right with God FOR us. He made things right between us and God.

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10 MINUTES

CG: Today's Story Image

Optional: Place Today's Story Image on your timeline

"Jesus gave us the perfect example of forgiveness. And He said we should forgive first. We should make things right with others before we go to God.

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

"Whenever someone has wronged you, you can be the one to take a step toward forgiveness. It might be you that needs to be forgiven. It might be you that needs to forgive. Maybe it's a little bit of both.

"Forgive quickly, because the longer you wait, the harder it will be. **[Basic Truth] Treat others the way you want to be treated**, and make the first move toward forgiveness. Try your best to fix your relationship with the person. Who knows? Maybe it'll even end up stronger than it was before!

"In Small Group, you'll get to talk about what it means to take the first step and forgive. Have fun!"

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop