

Topic: “Forgiveness and Gratefulness”

Materials: A device to play music on, written scenarios available, printed words for gratefulness and forgiveness if choosing this option, markers, crayons, drawing paper, line paper, plain paper, pens & pencils

Words to Know

****Opening Prayer****-A way to invite God in and get students to pray**

1. Opening Activity-an activity to get the children ready to focus in
2. Memory Verse-The verse that will be taught to children that they may commit to memory
3. Transition-a statement that helps you move smoothly through lesson
4. The Lesson-is the outline of the lesson
5. Main Point-Is the topic of the point you will teach in lesson, sometimes it’s one and sometimes it’s more than one.
6. () Inside the parenthesis are little things for the teachers to say or do
7. Explanation-a statement that further explain a word or point
8. Engager-a question or activity to get children involved
9. Reinforcer-something used to drive the main point(s) home
10. Bottom Line-The close of the lesson
11. Did We Get-An activity to make sure children understood lesson and takeaways

****Closing Prayer****-A way to invite thank God and get students to pray**

Opening Prayer: The teacher(s) will ask a student volunteer to pray.

Review of Recent Memory Verse: Matthew 8:13-Jesus said to the centurion man, Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.

Transition/Discussion: *(The teacher(s) will transition by saying):* Okay everyone, last time we were together, we learned about gratitude and today I want to remind some of you and share with the rest of you what it means to have gratitude. *(The teacher(s) should write the word **GRATITUDE** out on the board or have it printed in big letters on paper to show students)* Gratitude is when we appreciate the good things that happen to us in life. What we want to do is make sure we always have gratitude and that it grows in us. *(The teacher(s) will transition by saying):* Okay now that everyone knows what gratitude is, let’s talk about forgiveness *(The teacher(s) should write the word **FORGIVENESS** out on the board or have it printed in big letters on paper to show students and then say)* who can tell me what forgiveness is? *(The teacher will allow the students to answer, celebrate their answers and add)* Forgiveness means that we let go of the bad feelings for someone that did something that hurt us or made us upset.

Activity: *(The teacher(s) will transition by saying)* Okay everyone, I want you to spread out in the room and make sure that there is space between you all. *(The teacher(s) will allow the students to spread out and then say)* Now let’s get some energy flowing. I will play some music, and I want you to dance and move around, so when you hear the music, I want you to get to moving and when the music stops, I want you to freeze in place. *(The teacher(s) will play the music, allowing the students to move and dance, and after a period of the music playing, the teacher(s) will top the music, so the students can freeze. While the students are frozen, the teacher(s) we read/call out a scenario that the students may think about how they would show forgiveness or gratitude in that situation.)*

Scenarios to Call Out: (The teacher(s) can add to the list

1. Someone accidentally bumps into you and says sorry. How do you show forgiveness?
2. A friend shares a snack with you. How do you show gratitude?
3. Your sibling takes something from you without asking, but then returns it and apologizes. How do you show forgiveness?
4. Your teacher helps you with a difficult problem. How do you show gratitude?

Wrap Up: *(The teacher(s) will have the students sit in a circle to discuss and allow them to respond to some of the scenarios they thought about while being frozen)*

Transition: *(The teacher(s) will transition by saying):* Great job everyone and I hope you had fun with that activity. Now we are going to read our memory verse.

Today's Memory Verse (Must write it out on board and teach it to the students so they can commit to memory) **Luke 7:50**-And Jesus say to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Transition: *(The teacher(s) will transition by saying):* Today we are going to share in an amazing story about a woman who showed her gratitude for Jesus in a very special way. Remember our lesson is about being grateful and showing forgiveness; so let's see how this woman didn't hold anything back when she thanked Jesus.

Read Luke 7:36-38 (Children's Edition)

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus if he would come and eat with him, and Jesus agreed to eat with him. So, after Jesus gets to the Pharisee's house, sits at the table; a woman who was a sinner, came to the house after finding out Jesus was there with a very expensive bottle of perfume. The reason why she was still called a sinner is because she had done some not so good things that she had not asked Jesus to forgive her for yet. So, when she got close to Jesus, she stood behind him at his feet crying very hard for the things she had done that the tears were dropping on Jesus' feet. She then took her hair and used it to dry his feet. After she dried Jesus' feet, she knew Jesus could forgive her for the not so good things she had done, so to show her gratitude, she took the expensive perfume and poured it on his feet which is also called anointing.

(The teacher will stop to ask the following question)

Can someone tell me what happened in the story?

(The teacher will allow the students to answer, celebrate their answers and add)

In those days being invited to dinner at a Pharisee's house was a big deal because Pharisees were high ranking in the community. The perfume the woman poured on Jesus' feet was very expensive, so she used something very precious to her to show her sorrow and gratitude.

(The teacher will stop to ask the following question)

Imagine a time when you did something wrong and felt sorry about it; how did you show that you were sorry?

(The teacher will allow the students to answer and add)

Just like the woman, we all can do something to show our remorse or that we are sorry.

Read Luke 7:39-43 (Children's Edition)

Now the Pharisee who invited Jesus over said to himself, if this man was really a prophet and special, he would know that this woman who is touching him is a sinner. Because Jesus hears and sees everything, he a Pharisee, a person owed someone \$500 and another person owed that same someone \$50 and neither one could pay it back; so he forgave both of them from what they owed, which person would have loved him more; the one who owed the \$500 or the one who owed the \$50? The Pharisee who we now know name was Simon, replied to Jesus and said, probably the one who owed the \$500 because it was much more than the \$50. Then Jesus said to the Pharisee named Simon, that answer is correct.

(The teacher will stop to ask the following question)

Can someone tell me what happened in the story?

(The teacher will allow the students to answer, celebrate their answers and add)

The Pharisee named Simon could not understand why Jesus would let this woman touch him, so Jesus broke it down to him, explaining that because he was forgiving this woman in a big way for all of her sins, she was very thankful and her actions showed that.

(The teacher will stop to ask the following question)

Can you think about a time when someone forgave you for something big and how it made you feel?

(The teacher will allow the students to answer and add)

Just like in this story, the more we are forgiven, the more grateful we feel. Let's all make a big happy smile with our face to show how thankful we are when forgiven.

Read Luke 7:44-50 (Children's Edition)

Jesus then turns towards the woman and says to Simon, did you see her in action? When I came into your house Simon, you didn't give me any water for my feet, but she bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she anointed my feet with oil. She has shown great love, and this is why her many sins were forgiven. **And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."**

(The teacher will stop to ask the following question)

Can someone tell me what happened in the story?

(The teacher will allow the students to answer, celebrate their answers and add)

Jesus pointed out that Simon didn't show Him the usual signs of respect and hospitality, but the woman did. By her actions she showed great love and gratitude for the forgiveness she received from Jesus. Jesus forgave her sins because of her faith.

Transition: *(The teacher(s) will transition by saying):* Okay everyone let's get ready for another activity.

“Did We Get It”

Bottom Line: (If time permits)

1. Review Memory Verse
2. Have each student go around the room and answer the following questions:
 - A. Why did the woman bring the expensive perfume to Jesus? What did she do with it?
 - B. How did Jesus respond to the woman's actions; and what did He say about forgiveness?
 - C. Can you think of a way you can show your gratitude to Jesus for His forgiveness this week?
3. Have the students write a poem/letter or draw a picture about what they learned today.
4. Close out with prayer.