



WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP

2-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share
and collaborate with others while
growing their understanding



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that kids would see the need for and value of forgiveness, and how God can use it to heal a friendship. Ask God to bring to mind anything that needs to be forgiven or anything kids need to ask forgiveness for. Pray for wisdom and discernment as you navigate the conversation around those relationships.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I'll Be There for You

Jesus and Peter
John 21:1-19
(supporting: John 18:1-27)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends forgive one another.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

A friend loves at all times, and a
brother is born for a time of
adversity.
Proverbs 17:17, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Friendship—Using your words and
actions to show others you care**

BASIC TRUTH

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

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: paper, pencils, pebbles, colored chalk

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pair kids up and give them a sheet of paper.
- Ask one of the kids to draw a tic-tac-toe grid.
- Give each kid four small pebbles and chalk.
- Ask one of the kids to draw an "X" on all four of the pebbles and for the teammate to draw an "O" on all four pebbles.
- Guide teams to play a few rounds of backyard tic-tac-toe.



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MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Hula hoop

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask the kids to stand in a close circle and raise their arms (shoulder height) then extend their index fingers.
- Rest the hula hoop on the tips of the kids' fingers.
- Inform the group that they must keep a fingertip on the hula hoop at all times without hooking their finger around it.
- Challenge the group to lower the hoop to the ground without talking to each other and without anyone losing contact between their finger and the hoop!

WHAT YOU SAY:

"That was a frustrating game; especially because you couldn't talk to each other. Some of you figured out that the only way to win was for everyone to be in sync and lower the hoop together at the same pace. Since you couldn't talk to each other, you couldn't share that information! It's important for friends to be in sync with each other. **[Transition] Lets go listen to the story and hear a story of two friends who weren't in sync and what happened.**"

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen
in the brain and taps into the energy
in the body



1. TARGET TOSS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "True or False" Activity Page, painter's
tape targets, colored paper

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Give each team a different color of paper and ask the kids to wad their paper into a tight ball. (Each kid should have one paper ball in their team's color.)
- Instruct the teams to line up on opposing sides of the target, with teams facing each other.
- Teams must be at least ten feet from each other. (You may want to put down a tape line in front of each team once they get into their positions.)
- Let the group know that you will ask true or false questions.
 - If the kids think the answer is true, they throw the paper ball into the "T" target.
 - If they think their answer is false, they toss the paper ball into the "F" target.
- Whichever team lands the most paper balls in the correct target for each question gets a point for that round.
- Ask the kids to retrieve the paper balls between each round and return to their positions in their team's line to get ready for the next round.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"It bothered Peter that he was not a good friend to Jesus. When your friend does something to hurt you, you can't actually erase what they did from your mind, but if you truly forgive them, you free yourself from having to always think about it and be angry about it. Forgiveness means you move on and show that friend you trust them again, just like Jesus showed Peter that He trusted him again. **[Make It Personal] (Talk about a time you restored trust with someone or someone trusted you again after you made a mistake.) Friends forgive one another.**"

NOTE: Leaders, forgiving friends is the right choice when someone says or does something unkind. But if a kid is being bullied or consistently hurt by someone who claims to be a friend, this is a completely different situation. Remind your kids to always tell a trusted adult when they need help. While we are called to love and forgive others, that doesn't mean we need to remain in a friendship with someone who hurts us. That goes back to what we learned week one about choosing your friends carefully. For the majority of your kids, this will not be the case, but you know your few. If a kid expresses anything about a friend that sounds concerning to you, please share that information with a parent or guardian, or ask a church staff member for guidance if you don't know the family well.

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1. Peter promised Jesus that he would follow Jesus anywhere. *(True)*
2. Peter was sitting on a chair sipping soda when Jesus was arrested. *(False)*
3. People told ten people that he didn't know Jesus. *(False – he told three people)*
4. After Jesus was gone, Peter felt bad about denying Jesus. *(True)*
5. When Jesus came back everything was okay with Peter and Jesus *(False- Peter felt bad and wondered if Jesus was mad at him.)*
6. Peter and the other disciples went fishing in the middle of the night and caught hundreds of fish. *(False – they spent all night fishing and caught nothing.)*
7. All the disciples saw a man standing on the lakeshore early in the morning after their fishing trip. *(True)*
8. Peter was so excited to see Jesus that he steered the boat to the shore. *(False, he was so excited to see Jesus that he jumped into the water and swam to Jesus.)*
9. Jesus started a fire and asked the disciples to eat breakfast with Him. *(True)*
10. After breakfast Jesus pulled John aside to talk to him. *(False – He pulled Peter aside to talk to him)*
11. Jesus asked Peter three times if Peter loved Jesus. *(True. The same amount of times that Peter denied Jesus.)*
12. Jesus told Peter that everything will be easy as a result of following Him. *(False – Jesus told Peter that life would be difficult.)*
13. Jesus forgave Peter so completely that he trusted Peter with the big job of caring for all his followers. *(True)*

What to Do:

Print one for each small group.

"True or False" Activity Page

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



*2. TALK IT OUT!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Conflict Situations" Activity Page, "Emojis" Activity Pages

WHAT YOU DO:

- Hold up the emoji pages one by one.
- Ask kids about the emotion that each page represents and tell them that it might be something they or their friends experience when they're hurt.
- Then, let kids help you place each of the emojis at different spots throughout your group's space.
- Read a situation from the "Conflict Situations" page and ask kids, "How would you feel in that situation?"
- Let the kids respond by quickly walking to the emoji that best fits how they think they would feel in that particular situation.
- Before moving on to the next situation, lead the kids in a quick discussion (just a sentence or two) about potential solutions to the conflict.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Thank you for being open and honest about how you would feel if someone hurt you in each of these different situations. When someone hurts you, it's normal to experience lots of emotions like those on these emojis. It's difficult to get over hurt. We want to stay mad and hold onto that anger. But the truth is, when you choose NOT to forgive, you continue to hurt yourself. It might also cause you to lose a good friend. Just like Peter and Jesus talked it out, it's important to learn how to talk it out with your friends so you can fix your relationship. It's also important to learn to be wise in certain situations. If a friend repeatedly hurts you, it's okay to forgive them then walk away to protect yourself from being constantly hurt. **Friends forgive one another.**"

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BASIC TRUTH

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Conflict Situations

- Your friend has been choosing other friends to play soccer with at recess and leaves you out.
- Your friend played with your toy that you brought to school and didn't ask you first.
- Your friend calls you a mean name.
- Your friend won't take turns.
- Your friend never wants to play what YOU want to play.
- A friend lied to you about what someone else said about you.
- Your friend didn't invite you to his birthday party.

What to Do:

Print one for each small group.

"Conflict Situations" Activity Pages

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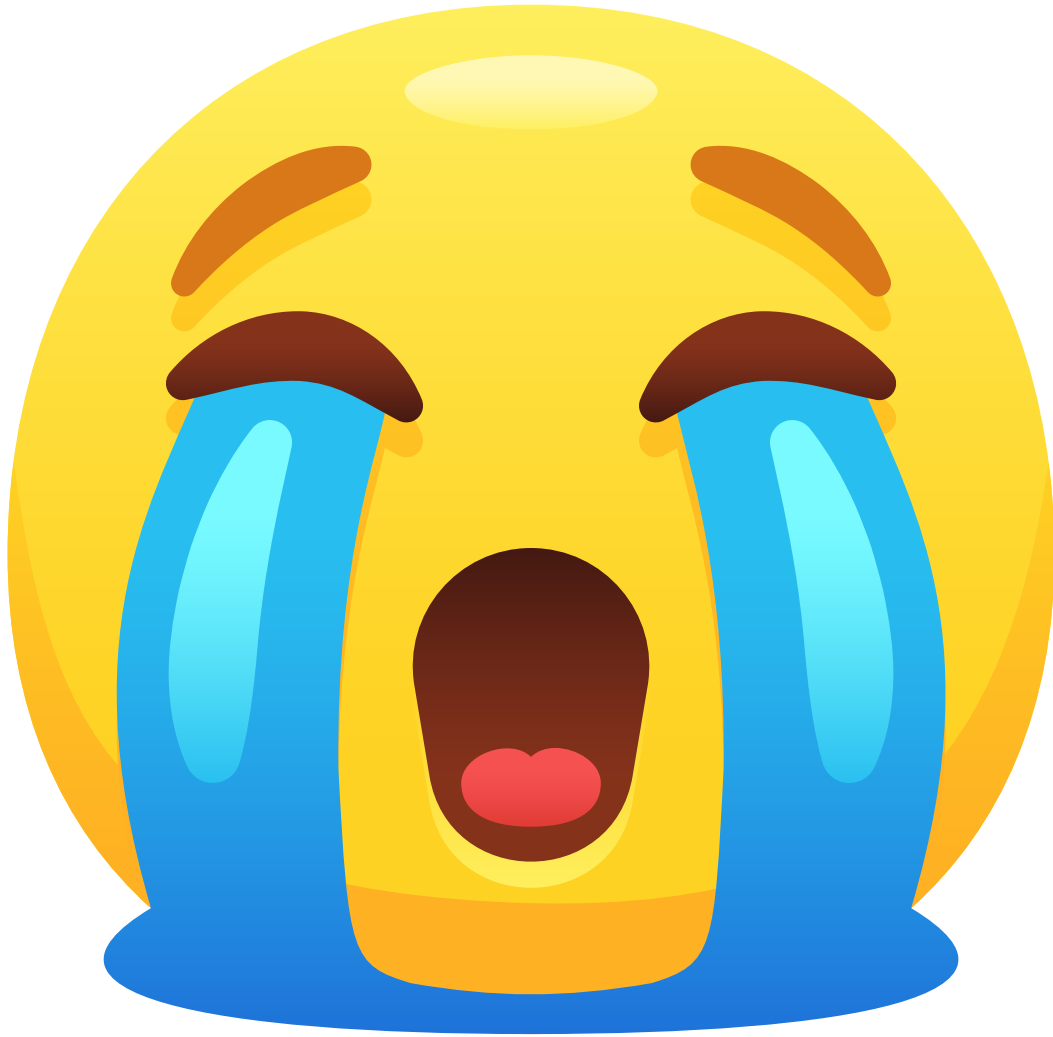
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MAD

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



SAD

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



HURT

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



UPSET

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



EMBARRASSED

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



NERVOUS

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



SURPRISED

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



FRUSTRATED

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



WORRIED

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. Provide one set for each small group.



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25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning
through hands-on experimentation
and discovery



3. FORGIVENESS BRINGS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Word Search" Activity Page, "Search Answers" Activity Page, pencils, Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Look up Proverbs 17:17 or let kids recite it from memory.
- Let a couple of volunteers share with the group what the verse means to them in their own words.
- Hand out the "Word Search" Activity Page to each kid.
- Instruct the kids to look at the list at the bottom and find the words in the word search.
- After a few minutes, let kids who have found most of the words help their friends out.
- As they work, ask them to think about the last time they forgave a friend or the last time someone forgave them.
 - Prompt kids to think about how it felt to have their friendship "fixed" through forgiveness.
 - Let any kids share stories if they want to. Help them keep names out of the story, and if needed, help them move stories along if they get too bogged down on details.

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BASIC TRUTH

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

"When you get hurt or you hurt someone, your friendships change. A friend loves at all times, and that's why it's important to learn to ask for forgiveness when you do something wrong. It's equally important to learn to forgive those friends who hurt you. When you learn to ask AND give forgiveness you can experience healing, peace, calm, happiness, laughter—all the words you found in this word search. **Friends forgive one another.**"



FORGIVENESS BRINGS...



R	V	A	X	Y	A	E	M	H	C	B	H
F	R	I	E	N	D	S	H	I	P	P	E
Y	A	K	I	N	D	N	E	S	S	P	A
P	M	M	R	L	K	Y	Z	I	I	E	L
Y	L	L	A	U	G	H	T	E	R	A	I
C	H	A	P	P	I	N	E	S	S	C	N
R	C	A	L	M	U	Q	E	V	D	E	G
I	W	S	J	L	O	V	E	T	A	B	Z



Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → and ↓.

CALM
FRIENDSHIP
HAPPINESS

HEALING
KINDNESS
LAUGHTER

LOVE
PEACE

What to Do:

Print one for each kid.

"Word Search" Activity Page

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FORGIVENESS BRINGS...



.	H
F	R	I	E	N	D	S	H	I	P	.	E
.	.	K	I	N	D	N	E	S	S	P	A
.	E	L
.	.	L	A	U	G	H	T	E	R	A	I
.	H	A	P	P	I	N	E	S	S	C	N
.	C	A	L	M	.	.	.	.	.	E	G
.	.	.	.	L	O	V	E	.	.	.	.



Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → and ↓.

CALM
FRIENDSHIP
HAPPINESS

HEALING
KINDNESS
LAUGHTER

LOVE
PEACE

What to Do:

Print one for each group.

"Search Answers" Activity Page

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



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4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the kids in a circle on the floor.
- Guide kids to sit quietly and ask God to bring to mind anyone they might not have forgiven for something—anything they might be holding onto or might repeatedly get mad about.
- If they think of someone they need to forgive, have them pray silently and ask God to help them forgive that person.
- Then, guide the kids to ask God to help them see if they need to ask anyone to forgive them.
- Give them a moment to pray silently on their own, asking God to give them the courage to go to that person and ask forgiveness.
- Close with prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Heavenly Father, Thank You for hearing our prayers and showing us who we need to forgive and who we need to ask forgiveness from. Please, help us extend the same kind of forgiveness that You offer to our friends because **friends forgive one another**. Help us also have the courage to ask for forgiveness. Amen."

Encourage the kids to share what they learned about forgiveness.
Challenge them to use words from their Word Searches.