

Jesus Forgives A Woman

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

Theme: Don't point out what others do wrong but try to see what you do wrong!

Scripture: Matthew 7:1-5

Memory Verse: Matthew 7:3 - 'Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?'

The Children's Sermon

One day very early in the morning Jesus went to the temple to teach the people (the temple is like a church where Jewish people went to study God's word).

As Jesus sat down to teach a group of men brought a woman into him, they were tattle tales. Does anyone know what a tattle tale is? Tattling isn't always bad if someone is hurt or could be hurt you should tell someone! But these men were tattling just so they would look good and to try and trick Jesus. Have you ever tattled just to get someone else in trouble or so you would look like the good person? They asked Jesus what they should do with this woman who had done something really really bad. Jesus didn't answer them he knelt down to the dirt and started writing with His finger.

They continued to question Jesus, "Our law says when someone does something this BAD all of us should throw rocks at her and hurt her really bad. What do you say we should do, Jesus?"

Jesus stood up and said, "Whoever has never sinned may throw the first rock!"

The men looked at what Jesus had written in the dirt with His finger and one by one, from the oldest to the youngest, they left the temple. Now the bible doesn't tell us what Jesus wrote in the dirt but maybe it was something each one of these men had done wrong just in case they had forgotten.

Do any of you like to forget what you have done wrong and point a finger at someone else for what they are doing wrong?

Jesus asked the woman, "Where have they all gone?" She said, "All of them that said I had done something wrong have left." Jesus said, "I forgive you too, now go home and don't do that bad thing ever again!" The woman was so happy she went home with a thankful heart and knew she would try never to do that really bad thing again. Have you ever done anything really bad and asked God to forgive you? Are you going to try and never do it again to make God happy?

God wants us to forgive each other and to look at what we do wrong and not to point our finger at others because they do wrong, we should set an example and help others do the right thing also. Forgiveness in the Bible is a big deal. It's like when you accidentally break your friend's toy, and they say, "It's okay, I forgive you." It makes you feel better and helps you both be friends again.

Let's talk more about forgiveness in the Bible. Imagine you're playing in the park, and someone takes your toy without asking. You might feel really mad or sad, right? But then, they say sorry and give it back. If you forgive them, it's like opening a door to play and have fun together again. Jesus teaches us that when we forgive, we open our hearts to more happiness and friendship.

Sometimes, forgiving can be really hard. Maybe someone keeps being mean, or you're just so hurt. But forgiveness in the Bible teaches us something special – it's not just for the person who did something wrong, it's for us too. When we forgive, we let go of being angry or sad, and that makes us feel lighter and happier.

Jesus showed us the best example of forgiveness. Even when people were not kind to Him, He still loved them and forgave them. He wants us to do the same. It's like if you have a backpack full of rocks, and each rock is something bad someone did to you. If you keep carrying it, it's going to be so heavy! But if you take the rocks out, you'll feel so much better. Forgiving is like taking those rocks out of your backpack.

Forgiveness in the Bible is also about saying sorry. When we do something wrong, it's important to say, "I'm sorry," and try not to do it again. Just like the woman in our story, when we say sorry and mean it, Jesus forgives us. And that's a wonderful feeling!

Another important thing about forgiveness in the Bible is that it's something we should do over and over again. Jesus didn't say to forgive just once; He said we should keep forgiving, just like He does with us. It's like if you're playing a game and someone keeps making mistakes. Instead of getting mad every time, you help them and give them another chance. That's what forgiveness is all about.

Forgiveness in the Bible teaches us to be like Jesus, to love others, and to be kind, even when it's hard.

So, next time you're feeling upset or mad at someone, remember the story of Jesus and the woman. Think about how you can forgive and make things right. It might just be the start of a beautiful friendship or a chance to feel happy and light again.

Bible Memory Verse

Matthew 7:3 - 'Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?'

You Will Need:

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks
- Stickers (optional)
- Safety scissors

Get Ready:

- Cut out large eye shapes from the construction paper ahead of time.
- Prepare a small example of a 'speck' and a 'plank' using the construction paper to show the children.

Do This:

1. Give each child an eye shape and ask them to decorate it with markers or crayons. They can add eyelashes, color in the iris, or make it as creative as they like.
2. Show the children your examples of a 'speck' and a 'plank.' Explain that sometimes we worry too much about the small mistakes others make (the speck) and forget to see our own bigger mistakes (the plank).
3. Ask the children to cut out a small speck and a big plank from construction paper. They can then glue the speck on one side of the eye and the plank on the other side. While they do this, remind them of the memory verse and discuss the importance of looking at our own actions before judging others.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Small mirrors (one per child)
- Washable markers
- Sticky notes
- Storybook with a simple version of Matthew 7:1-5 or a related theme

Get Ready:

- Write simple phrases on sticky notes like "I will share", "I will be kind", and "I will listen". Make sure these are actions the kids can do to improve themselves.
- Ensure the mirrors are clean and safe for children to use.

Do this:

1. Read the storybook that simplifies Matthew 7:1-5, focusing on the theme of looking at our own actions before judging others.
2. Give each child a mirror and ask them to look at their reflection. Explain that sometimes we need to look at ourselves to see what we can do better.
3. Hand out markers and sticky notes to each child. Ask them to think of one thing they can do better, with your help if needed, and write it or draw it on the sticky note. Then, they stick the note to the back of their mirror as a reminder to focus on improving themselves, not pointing out others' faults.

Snack Activity: Mirror Cookies

You'll Need:

- Sugar cookies (pre-baked, one per child)

- Icing (white or a light color)
- Edible markers or food coloring pens
- Small mirrors or reflective surfaces

Get Ready: Place a sugar cookie on a plate for each child. Ensure the icing and edible markers are easily accessible for the children. Have small mirrors or reflective surfaces available for each child to use.

Do this:

1. Invite the children to spread icing smoothly over their cookie to create a 'mirror' surface.
2. Encourage the children to look into their small mirrors and see their own faces. Ask them to think about things they do well and things they might need to work on, emphasizing the importance of looking at our own actions instead of pointing out what others do wrong.
3. Using the edible markers, have the children draw a smiley face on their cookie to remind them to look for the good in themselves and to work on their own mistakes, rather than focusing on others' faults.

Game Activity: Mirror, Mirror

You'll Need:

- A small mirror for each child
- Colorful stickers
- A clear space in the room

Get Ready: Place a colorful sticker on each child's forehead without letting them see what color it is. Spread out the mirrors throughout the clear space in the room,

ensuring there's enough room for each child to stand in front of a mirror without being crowded.

Do this:

1. Tell the children that they each have a special sticker on their forehead, but the challenge is to guess its color without asking others or trying to look in the mirror first.
2. Encourage each child to think about what they might have done wrong today or recently (in a very simple, age-appropriate way) and share if they're comfortable. Assure them it's okay to make mistakes because everyone does.
3. After sharing, allow them to look in the mirror to see their sticker's color. Explain that just like they couldn't see their own sticker without the mirror, sometimes we can't see our own mistakes without reflecting on our actions.

Craft Activity: Mirror of Kindness

You'll Need:

- Paper plates (1 per child)
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers
- Glue sticks
- Pre-cut paper frames (1 per child)

Get Ready: Before the class, write 'What I Do Well' at the top of each paper plate and 'I Can Improve' at the bottom. Prepare the pre-cut paper frames to fit around the edge of the plates.

Do this:

1. Give each child a paper plate and ask them to draw a self-portrait in the middle using markers or crayons.
2. Encourage them to think about things they do well and write or draw these at the top of the plate. Then, help them think of one thing they want to improve on and write or draw this at the bottom.
3. Finally, let them decorate their 'Mirror of Kindness' with stickers and glue the pre-cut frame around their plate. Explain that just like they decorated their mirrors, they can always work on making themselves better without focusing on what others are doing wrong.

Prayer Activity: Looking Inward Prayer Time

You'll Need:

- A small mirror for each child
- Washable markers
- Paper hearts

Get Ready: Write a simple prayer on each paper heart that focuses on self-reflection, such as 'Help me to be kind and not point fingers.'

Do this:

1. Give each child a mirror and ask them to look at their reflection. Explain that sometimes we look at others to see what they're doing wrong, but today we're going to look at ourselves.
2. Hand out the washable markers and let the children draw smiley faces on the mirrors as a reminder to smile and be kind to themselves and others.

3. Give each child a paper heart with the prayer. Encourage them to say the prayer with you, asking God to help them focus on their actions and to be kind, just like Jesus teaches us in Matthew 7:1-5.