

FROM RED LETTER CHALLENGE

# FORGIVING KIDS

CHALLENGE

A 40-DAY FORGIVENESS  
ADVENTURE



ZACH AND ALLISON ZEHNDER  
DAILY SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM

# SCHOOL LEADERS + TEACHER LETTER

FORGIVING  
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## HELLO SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, DEANS, + TEACHERS:

We are so excited to begin the Forgiving Challenge (FC) Kids journey with you.

First, we want to thank you for being willing to teach your students about the forgiveness offered through faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Leading children to the Savior so they can receive life-giving forgiveness is truly a divine calling from God Himself.

**What is the FC Kids book?** The book is the foundation of our 40-day adventure together. It follows the original Forgiving Challenge book (meant for youth and adults) and is excellent when used together. What makes this experience so unique is that it involves the entire family. What a fantastic opportunity! The FC Kids book will last over 40 days, starting with five days of introduction in which you learn about the 5 phases of the Forgiving Challenge:

- The Mess-Up - **S**in
- The 'Fess-Up - **C**onfession
- The Clean-Up - **A**bsolution
- The Rise-Up - **R**estoration
- The Step-Up - **S**anctification

The following five weeks dive into each phase, digging deeper into the forgiveness journey and how we can challenge ourselves to allow Jesus to heal and restore us all.

Research shows that kids learn through stories, so we did not stop with 40 daily devotionals! In addition, the FC Kids book interweaves a 7-part Mountains of Redvale novelette throughout the book written by renowned author Doug Peterson. We have found that this is often the kid's favorite part!

**What is the Forgiving Challenge Kids School-Based Curriculum?** It is a day-by-day guide to implementing this 40-Day discipleship experience into a Bible class or classroom. It offers a variety of enhancements to the book, such as:

- Easy day-by-day lesson plans to follow
- A flexible study that can fit different settings such as a Bible study, classroom, or Confirmation Class
- Completely customizable lessons to fit a specific class, time frame, and style
- Grade and age-specific activities, projects, and discussion questions related to the text
- FREE activities, links, and tests offered on our website
- A detailed plan to encourage family involvement and parent connection through a personalized Commitment Letter and family-based activities.

**I am a teacher; how do I use these lessons?** We encourage facilitators to begin with the agenda items each day and then add in the provided optional activities for enrichment if time allows.

- Follow our plans as presented for easy and quick prep beforehand or
- Make them your own by adding, changing, or mixing and matching for your optimal needs.

**How long will this take?** The goal is to complete the book in 40 days! To accomplish this, students will have homework in the form of challenges during the week and bonus readings and activities to finish on Saturday and Sunday. There are options for the kids to choose from every day!

**I have a book; where do I start?** We recommend that you take the time to familiarize yourself with the FC Kids Book, reviewing the introduction on pages 6-9. The RLL website also has ample information and resources to make this curriculum as easy and user-friendly as possible.

We pray that this 40-Day Challenge will energize your school and community. Our goal is to continue to provide simple, challenging, and practical resources that are always squarely aimed at Jesus! Let's commit to going ALL IN for our children's future!

*"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not vain." 1 Corinthians 15:58*

Get ready for an exciting discipleship adventure. Let's do this!

**The Red Letter Living Team**

**PS - For a super powerful and unifying discipleship experience, if you have an affiliated church, we encourage you to launch a schoolwide and churchwide challenge together!**



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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## FC KIDS SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM RESOURCES:

- **FC Kids Book Information:**

<https://redletterchallenge.com/40-day-challenges/forgiving-challenge/>

- **FC Kids School Leader/Teacher Letter** (previous page)
- **FC Kids Student/Parent Commitment Letter** (following pages)
- **FC Kids 40-Day Calendar** (following pages)
- **Kids Weekly Take-Home Sheets** (end of this curriculum)
- **More “Kids Resources” for FC Kids** (can be used in conjunction with an affiliated church or for additional activity ideas for the school classroom):

<https://redletterchallenge.com/free-resources/forgiving-challenge-resources/>

- **FC Weekly Kids Church Curriculum**
- **FC Kids Coloring Pages**
- **FC Kids Graphics Package**
- **FC Kids Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions**
- **FC Kids Passport Printable/Passport Stamp Booklet**

## RLC Social Media:

 <http://facebook.com/redletterchallenge>

 <https://www.instagram.com/redletterchallenge/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGaCGYKmYemdm7sRslFkG9w>

## Have Questions or need help?

- Contact and Support: <https://redletterchallenge.com/contact-and-support/>
- Email: [hello@redletterchallenge.com](mailto:hello@redletterchallenge.com)



# 40-DAY COMMITMENT LETTER

FORGIVING  
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## HELLO STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS,

As a community of believers in Christ, we have a deep desire to instill in every student an understanding of God's life-giving forgiveness and how to apply it in their personal life. This year, one way we are accomplishing this goal is by incorporating a new 40-Day Bible Study called Forgiving Challenge Kids into our regular curriculum. This highly engaging book will require a team effort from teachers, students, and parents/guardians. There will be fun, daily readings, and challenging action steps to complete that are scripture-based and forgiveness-focused.

Forgiveness is a journey we all must take to follow Jesus. With that in mind, we can think of no better way than to partner with the Master of forgiveness Himself - Jesus Christ! We are so excited about the spiritual growth and freedom that will happen due to walking with Jesus and understanding how He provides for our forgiveness, how He "meets the mark" for us, and how He restores us so we can do the great things in His Name. It's all about Jesus and the life He brings! John 10:10 says, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Please partner with us in this 40-Day Challenge. Sign and return this form as a signal of your commitment to this process. In addition, please keep the included calendar for your planning purposes.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name), commit to reading the daily readings and completing the *Forgiving Challenge Kids*.

\_\_\_\_\_ (student's signature)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian's name), commit to helping my student read the daily readings and assist them in completing *Forgiving Challenge Kids*.

\_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian's signature)

**Yes, I can purchase the FC Kids Book for \$\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Yes, I can purchase the FC Kids Book for another child who needs assistance.**

**No, we cannot afford the FC Kids Book. We would like financial support.**



# 40-DAY COMMITMENT LETTER

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## HELLO STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS,

As a community of believers in Christ, we have a deep desire to instill in every student an understanding of God's life-giving forgiveness and how to apply it in their personal life. This year, one way we are accomplishing this goal is by incorporating a new 40-Day Bible Study called Forgiving Challenge Kids into our regular curriculum. This highly engaging book will require a team effort from teachers, students, and parents/guardians. There will be fun, daily readings, and challenging action steps to complete that are scripture-based and forgiveness-focused.

Forgiveness is a journey we all must take to follow Jesus. With that in mind, we can think of no better way than to partner with the Master of forgiveness Himself - Jesus Christ! We are so excited about the spiritual growth and freedom that will happen due to walking with Jesus and understanding how He provides for our forgiveness, how He "meets the mark" for us, and how He restores us so we can do the great things in His Name. It's all about Jesus and the life He brings! John 10:10 says, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Please partner with us in this 40-Day Challenge. Sign and return this form as a signal of your commitment to this process. In addition, please keep the included calendar for your planning purposes.

## STATEMENT OF 40-DAY COMMITMENT:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name), commit to reading Jesus' Words and putting them into action through accepting and completing the challenges in *Forgiving Challenge Kids*.

\_\_\_\_\_ (student's signature)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian's name), commit to helping my student read Jesus' Words in the daily readings and assist them in accepting and completing the challenges in *Forgiving Challenge Kids*.

\_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian's signature)



# 40-DAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

FORGIVING  
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KIDS



## LET'S DO THIS!

We are so excited to begin the *Forgiving Challenge (FC) Kids* journey with you. The goal is to complete the book in 40 days! In order to accomplish this, students will have homework in the form of challenges during the week, as well as bonus readings and activities to complete on Saturday and Sunday. Let's commit to going ALL-IN for our student's future, so we can all become greater followers of Jesus!

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY     | THURSDAY      | FRIDAY        | SATURDAY      |
|--|--|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <p>ONLY FOR SCHOOLS PARTNERING WITH ASSOCIATED CHURCH</p> <p><b>*LAUNCH SUNDAY</b></p>     | <p>WEEK OF WARM-UP</p> <p>LET'S DO THIS!</p> <p><b>INTRO DAY</b></p> | <p>EVERYONE BEGINS READING DAY 1</p> <p><b>DAY 1</b></p> | <b>DAY 2</b>  | <b>DAY 3</b>  | <b>DAY 4</b>  | <b>DAY 5</b>  |
| <p>AT THIS POINT, STUDENTS WILL BE ONE DAY BEHIND IF PARTNERING WITH ASSOCIATED CHURCH</p> | <p>THE MESS-UP WEEK</p> <p><b>*DAY 6</b></p>                         | <b>DAY 7</b>   | <b>DAY 8</b>  | <b>DAY 9</b>  | <b>DAY 10</b> | <b>DAY 11</b> |
| <b>DAY 12</b>  | <p>THE FESS-UP WEEK</p> <p><b>DAY 13</b></p>                         | <b>DAY 14</b>  | <b>DAY 15</b> | <b>DAY 16</b> | <b>DAY 17</b> | <b>DAY 18</b> |
| <b>DAY 19</b>  | <p>THE CLEAN-UP WEEK</p> <p><b>DAY 20</b></p>                        | <b>DAY 21</b>  | <b>DAY 22</b> | <b>DAY 23</b> | <b>DAY 24</b> | <b>DAY 25</b> |
| <b>DAY 26</b>  | <p>THE RISE-UP WEEK</p> <p><b>DAY 27</b></p>                         | <b>DAY 28</b>  | <b>DAY 29</b> | <b>DAY 30</b> | <b>DAY 31</b> | <b>DAY 32</b> |
| <b>DAY 33</b>  | <p>THE STEP-UP WEEK</p> <p><b>DAY 34</b></p>                         | <b>DAY 35</b>  | <b>DAY 36</b> | <b>DAY 37</b> | <b>DAY 38</b> | <b>DAY 39</b> |
| <b>DAY 40</b>  | <p><b>*WRAP-UP/ CELEBRATION DAY</b></p> <p><b>*OPTIONAL</b></p>      |  |               |               |               |               |

## NOTES:



# WEEK OF WARM-UP | INTRODUCTION DAY

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: The Mess-Up, The 'Fess-Up, The Clean-Up, The Rise Up, and The Step-Up

## BIBLE VERSES:

1 John 1:8-10

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the importance of understanding forgiveness and define the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Introduce Forgiving Challenge (FC) Kids. (6-8 min)
  - Distribute FC Kids book and Student/Parent Commitment Letters; request return.
  - Read p.6 - p.7: Your Mountain Is Waiting.
    - Discussion Questions:
      - Why is forgiving others a difficult thing to do?
      - Why is it necessary?
    - Review FC Kids book structure, The challenges, The Mountains of Redvale, Red Alerts; Introduce the 5 phases of Forgiveness and SCARS acronym.
      - Reference p.8 - p.9.
  - Read Mountains of Redvale, pt.1. (8-10 min)
    - p.10 - p.14.
  - Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
    - Complete Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions. - 3-5
    - Complete Mountains of Redvale Coloring Sheets. - K-2
  - Review homework (HW) and Commitment Letter; distribute Week 1 Take Home Sheet. (1-2 min)
  - Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review Student/Parent Commitment Letter and get parent/guardian signatures.
- Review the 5 phases of forgiveness and the SCARS acronym with parents/guardians.
- As a family, praise God for the opportunity to learn about His gracious forgiveness.



# WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 1

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: The Mess-Up, The 'Fess-Up, The Clean-Up, The Rise Up, and The Step-Up

## BIBLE VERSES:

1 John 1:8-10

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the importance of understanding forgiveness and define the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Collect Commitment Letters. (1-2 min)
- Review the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom. (5 min)
- Introduce Day 1: The Mess-Up: Sin. (1-2 min)
- Read p.16 - p.19 (students circle supplies to climb a mountain). (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What are the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom?
    - Why is it important to pinpoint our sins and know how the trouble started?
    - God can help you see your mess-ups, but what does He do after that?
    - How is forgiveness like a mountain?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse (choral recitation). - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: David - How was he a man after God's own heart? - 3-5
    - Option: have students or student groups read the following verses - Psalm 119:47-48, Psalm 119:2-3, Psalm 26:6-7, Psalm 100:4, 2 Samuel 12:13, and Psalm 51:1-2; have groups share their findings of David's character.
  - Students draw/write/act out a "mess-up." - K-5
    - Option: Have students draw/write/act out an example of how they have "messed up" recently; discuss how they can go to God with their mess-ups.
- Review HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review Memory Verse.
- As a family, thank God for His loving and forgiving character.



# WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 2

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: The Mess-Up, The 'Fess-Up, The Clean-Up, The Rise Up, and The Step-Up

## BIBLE VERSES:

1 John 1:8-10

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the importance of understanding forgiveness and define the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Introduce Day 2: The 'Fess-Up: Confession. (1-2 min)
- Read p.20 - p.23 (students draw pictures of their safety zone). (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What does sin do to our connection with God?
    - What actions should we take to reestablish a relationship with God?
    - Why should we 'fess-up for both wrong actions and hurt?
    - What is the point of confession? What will God's grace do for us?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse (choral recitation). - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Pharisee vs. Tax Collector - Who was Justified? - 3-5
    - Option: have students or student groups read the following verses - Luke 18:9-14; have students share their findings and answer the question: why was the tax collector the one who was justified?
  - Have students discuss ways that we can practice Forgiving others. - K-5
    - Option: have students or student groups discuss or develop plans and steps to forgive someone for the "wrongs" they commit.
- Review HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- As a family, confess sins, ask for forgiveness, and seek to forgive others as God forgives us.



# WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 3

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: The Mess-Up, The 'Fess-Up, The Clean-Up, The Rise Up, and The Step-Up

## BIBLE VERSES:

1 John 1:8-10

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the importance of understanding forgiveness and define the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Introduce Day 3: The Clean-Up: Absolution. (1-2 min)
- Read p.24 - p.27 (students will complete the Leave-No-Trace Pledge). (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - Why do we all have to go through the clean-up step of absolution?
    - What does Jesus do with our sins when we come to Him for absolution?
    - How should we act towards others knowing how Jesus cleaned up our lives?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse (choral recitation). - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Leave-No-Trace Pledge. - 3-5
    - Option: Have students or student groups define each statement in the Pledge on p.27. Maybe have them share why each idea is important and how it can impact their lives.
  - Have students discuss or draw what forgiveness looks like to them. - K-2
    - Option: Ask for students to share examples of what they think forgiving others looks like to them.
- Review HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse (Test tomorrow!).
- Pray as a family that God will show you opportunities to absolve others of their wrongs against you.



# WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 4

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Mess-Up, The 'Fess-Up, The Clean-Up, The Rise Up, and The Step-Up

## BIBLE VERSES:

1 John 1:8-10

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the importance of understanding forgiveness and define the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Recite Memory Verse. (5-10 min)
  - Options: each student separately to earn a reward or as a group to earn a reward.
  - Reward Ideas: treats, badges, Redvale Passport Book Stamp.
- Introduce Day 4: The Rise-Up: Restoration. (1-2 min)
- Read p.28 - p.31 (students will complete mountain restoration). (5-10 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What is restoration? Can you give some examples?
    - How does Moses describe God's act of restoration in Deuteronomy 30:2-4?
- Read Mountains of Redvale, pt.2. (5-10 min)
  - p.38 - p.47.
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions. - 3-5
  - Mountains of Redvale Coloring Sheets. - K-2
- Review weekend HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Read and complete Day 5: The Step-Up: Sanctification (p. 32 - 35).
- Review the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom by completing the SCARS acronym on p.33.
- Complete Mountains of Redvale, pt. 2 with parents/guardians (if not completed).
- Pray as a family that God will open your heart to the forgiveness process.



# WEEK OF THE MESS-UP | DAY 6

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Mess-Up (Sin)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they mess-up as well as how Jesus deals with their sins.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance?" Micah 7:18

\* IF CHURCH IS DOING FC W/ SCHOOL, STUDENTS WILL NOW BE ONE DAY BEHIND IN CHALLENGES

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom from the previous week. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students which warmup was their favorite and why.
- Introduce Day 6: The Mess-Up: Sin - It all began in a garden. (1-2 min)
- Read p.48 - p.49 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What messed up God's perfect creation?
    - What types of hurts will we experience in our lives due to sin?
    - Does God ever give up on us sinners? How does Jesus react to evil?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review Bible Verses and recite memory verses. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: The First Sin. - 3-5
    - Option: Have students or student groups read Genesis 3. Have them share out how sin entered the world and how it changed the lives of Adam and Eve (and man in general).
  - Target Practice with and without Jesus Activity. - K-5
    - Option: have students wad up a piece of paper. Then have them shoot at the trash can (from their seats). Mark the number of shots made. Students will reshoot, but this time, the teacher will play the role of Jesus, gather missed shots, and put them in the can. Mark the number of attempts made and discuss how Jesus helps us all hit the mark.
  - Make-Up Monday: Work with students to complete work from the previous week.
- Review challenge and HW assignments; distribute Week 2 Take Home Sheet. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.49 - p.51 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, praise God for providing His son, Jesus, to save all of us.



# WEEK OF THE MESS-UP | DAY 7

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Mess-Up (Sin)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they mess-up as well as how Jesus deals with their sins.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance?" Micah 7:18

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share how they feel knowing God is in control.
- Introduce Day 7: The Mess-Up: Sin - Bumps, Stings, and Cuts. (1-2 min)
- Read p.52 - p.55 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What is the first step in forgiveness?
    - What are the differences in "bumps, stings, and deep cuts?"
    - Why can't you throw forgiveness over all of your sins like a blanket?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Slaves to Righteousness. - 3-5
    - Option: Have students or student groups read Romans 6:15-23. Have them create and share a comparison chart: Effects of Sin vs. Effects of Righteousness (based on their reading in Romans).
  - "By His wounds, we are healed" Activity, Pt. 1 - K-5
    - Option: Reread Isaiah 53:5. Have students draw a human figure/stick figure to represent Jesus; label all the areas where Jesus has scars (p.55). Then have students write a sin they have committed by each scar. Lead them in a prayer asking for forgiveness.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.56 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- PRAY as a family using the A-C-T-S acronym or the Lord's Prayer.
  - A-C-T-S: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication



# WEEK OF THE MESS-UP | DAY 8

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Mess-Up (Sin)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they mess-up as well as how Jesus deals with their sins.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance?" Micah 7:18

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students if they want to share one hurt from each column.
- Introduce Day 8: The Mess-Up: Sin - Hurts on the inside and outside. (1-2 min)
- Read p.58 - p.60 (students complete scar drawing) (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - How can we tell when we have a sting or deep cut that needs healing?
    - How does God see our stings and deep cuts?
    - What do Jesus' scars do to our scars (stings and deep cuts)?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Jesus, the Lamb of God. - 3-5
    - Option: Have one set of students read Exodus 12:1-13. Have another set read Hebrews 9:11-15. Have students share how the blood of the Lamb of the Passover is similar to the blood of Jesus.
  - "By His wounds we are healed" Activity, Pt. 2 - K-5
    - Option: Reread Isaiah 53:5. Have students draw a human figure/stick figure to represent themselves; have students write the sins from their previous drawing of Jesus on their body. Then have them cross out each sin and write JESUS on top of each crossed out sin. Lead them in a prayer of thankfulness for Jesus' saving power.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.61 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Worship God as a family; thank him for healing "deep cuts" in our lives.



# WEEK OF THE MESS-UP | DAY 9

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Mess-Up (Sin)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they mess-up as well as how Jesus deals with their sins.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance?" Micah 7:18

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share any hurts that they thought were inside and outside.
- Introduce Day 9: The Mess-Up: Sin - Hurts on accident. (1-2 min)
- Read p.62 - p.65 (students decorate a cake) (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - How have you been hurt by accident? How did you feel?
    - Do you have to prove that someone meant to hurt you before you forgive them? Why not?
    - What are three ways people cause "unfair hurts?"
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Did Jesus have feelings just like us?. - 3-5
    - Option: Have students or student groups read Mark 14:32-42. Discuss why the disciples hurt Jesus. Ask, "Did the disciples mean to hurt Jesus?" "How would you have felt in the same situation?"
  - Have you caused or been hurt by accident? - K-5
    - Options: Ask students to share times that they have hurt others by accident. Ask how the students felt; how those that they hurt felt. Discuss ways to "make things right" if we hurt someone by accident.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Read challenge on p.65 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, thank God for forgiving us for the accidents we cause.



# WEEK OF THE MESS-UP | DAY 10

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Mess-Up (Sin)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they mess-up as well as how Jesus deals with their sins.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance?" Micah 7:18

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Recite Memory Verse. (5-10 min)
  - Options: Earn a reward separately as an individual or as a group.
  - Reward Ideas: treats, badges, Redvale Passport Book Stamp.
- Intro Day 10: The Mess-Up: Sin - Hurts on Purpose. (1-2 min)
- Read p.66 - p.68 (5-10 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What is "double forgiveness," and when do we need to do it?
    - How did Jesus provide an example of double forgiveness?
- Read Mountains of Redvale, pt.3. (5-10 min)
  - p.80 - p.89
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions. - 3-5
  - Mountains of Redvale coloring sheets. - K-2
- Review weekend HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Read challenge on p.68 - p.69 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 11: The Mess-Up: Sin - Hurts by Loved Ones (p.70 - p.73); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 12: The Mess-Up: Sin - Hurts in the World (p.74 - p.77); start the challenge.
- Complete Mountains of Redvale, pt. 3 with parents/guardians (if not completed).
- Pray as a family that God will help you see hurts in your life and take action to repair your heart and relationships.



# WEEK OF THE 'FESS-UP | DAY 13

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The second of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The 'Fess-Up  
(Confession)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and  
why they need to confess their sins to God.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"...But you are a forgiving God, gracious  
and compassionate, slow to anger and  
abounding in love..." Nehemiah 9:16-17

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and Day 11, Day 12 from the previous week. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share an example from their completed challenges.
- Intro Day 13: The 'Fess-Up: Confession - Who Says What's Bad or Good? (1-2 min)
- Read p.90 - p.93 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What would you do if you were Emmett and Charlie? Why?
    - What's wrong with saying, "I make my own rules?"
    - Why does God make rules?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Did Jesus have feelings just like us? - 3-5
    - Option: Have students or student groups read Exodus 20:1-17 (The 10 Commandments). Then have them develop and discuss why God would want to have those ten rules for our lives?
  - Drawing "A New Idea" Activity. - K-5
    - Option: Have students draw a shirt or billboard sign and write a new idea or slogan related to how or why we follow God's commands.
  - Make-Up Monday: Work with students to complete work from the previous weekend.
- Review challenge and HW assignments; distribute Week 3 Take Home Sheet. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.94 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, praise God for His forgiving character and His love.



# WEEK OF THE 'FESS-UP | DAY 14

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The second of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The 'Fess-Up  
(Confession)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they need to confess their sins to God.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"...But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love..." Nehemiah 9:16-17

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask if anyone has a favorite commandment and why.
- Intro Day 14: The 'Fess-Up: Confession - Fight, Flight, or Making Things Right. (1-2 min)
- Read p.96 - p.98 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - Are you more "fight" or "flight?" Why? (maybe take a class poll)
    - What response did Jesus choose?
    - What do peacemakers do? What are they focused on?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: What does the Bible say about being peaceful? - 3-5
    - Options: Have students or student groups read the following verses: Matt. 5:9, Romans 12:18; 14:19, James 3:17-18, Col. 3:15, John 14:27. Have students or student groups share what the Bible says. Discuss what is gained and accomplished by living "peaceful" lives.
  - Peacemaker Training - K-5
    - Option: Have students make a list of events when they chose "fight" or "flight." Have them share some of the events. Then have them develop a plan for how they could have brought peace to each event.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.99 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, confess your sins, ask for forgiveness, and seek peace in all situations.



# WEEK OF THE 'FESS-UP | DAY 15

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The second of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The 'Fess-Up  
(Confession)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and  
why they need to confess their sins to God.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"...But you are a forgiving God, gracious  
and compassionate, slow to anger and  
abounding in love..." Nehemiah 9:16-17

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share how they felt after writing out their confession.
- Intro Day 15: The 'Fess-Up: Confession - What's in an apology? (1-2 min)
- Read p.100 - p.103 (students will draw costumes for the party) (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What are the three parts of a genuine apology?
    - Why do your words, expressions, and body language matter when apologizing?
    - Why is it important to ask how you can make it right?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: How serious are apologies to God?. - 3-5
    - Option: Have students read Matt. 5:23-24. Have each student write an answer to the question above and then share their answers with the class in a roundtable discussion.
  - 3 Part Apology Practice. - K-2
    - Options: Have students practice the 3 part apology with partners in class. They can apologize for teacher-generated situations or student-generated situations. Ensure students take turns.
- Review challenges and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.104 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, thank God for His Holy Spirit that guides us to apologize for the wrongs we commit.



# WEEK OF THE 'FESS-UP | DAY 16

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The second of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The 'Fess-Up  
(Confession)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and  
why they need to confess their sins to God.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"...But you are a forgiving God, gracious  
and compassionate, slow to anger and  
abounding in love..." Nehemiah 9:16-17

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students which part of apologizing is most challenging: own it, show it, or ask it?
- Intro Day 16: The 'Fess-Up: Confession - Confessing Our Sin to God. (1-2 min)
- Read p.106 - p.108 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - How do we begin the process of receiving God's help in our situations?
    - If God knows all of our sins, why do we still need to confess them?
    - Do all confessions have to be spoken? Why or why not?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: What was Peter's message to the Jews?. - 3-5
    - Options: Have students or student groups read Acts 3:11-26. Then have them develop one sentence that summarizes Peter's whole message (what was his main focus?).
  - "Why do we confess our sins?" Activity - K-5
    - Option: Have students draw or write their ideas about why we confess our sins if God already knows everything. Ask them how it feels to know God is their savior even when they mess up.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Read challenge on p.109 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Pray as a family and thank God for being our savior (though we do need reminders).



# WEEK OF THE 'FESS-UP | DAY 17



## THEME:

The second of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The 'Fess-Up  
(Confession)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they need to confess their sins to God.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"...But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love..." Nehemiah 9:16-17

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Recite Memory Verse. (5-10 min)
  - Options: Earn a reward separately as an individual or as a group.
  - Reward Ideas: treats, badges, Redvale Passport Book Stamp.
- Introduce Day 17: The 'Fess-Up: Confession - Be Honest with Yourself. (1-2 min)
- Read p.110 - p.112 (students will identify planets) (5-10 min)
  - Discussion Questions and Challenges:
    - Why is it important to be honest with ourselves and the pain we cause?
    - How should Jesus' approach to the cross inspire us in getting past the "what's fair" mentality?
- Read Mountains of Redvale, pt.4. (5-10 min)
  - p.124 - p.134
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions. - 3-5
  - Mountains of Redvale Coloring Sheets. - K-2
- Review weekend HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMework:

- Read challenge on p.112 - p.113 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 18: 'The 'Fess-Up: Confession - Shadow Confessions' with parents/guardians (p.114 - p.117); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 19: 'The 'Fess-Up: Confession - What if We're Innocent?' with parents/guardians (p.118 - p.121); start the challenge.
- Complete Mountains of Redvale pt. 4 with parents/guardians (if not completed).
- Pray as a family that God will help you to continue completing challenges and following Him.



# WEEK OF THE CLEAN-UP | DAY 20

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Clean-Up (Absolution)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 103:1-5

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how the "clean-up" of our lives is only achievable with Jesus' help.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases." Psalm 103:2-3

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and Day 18, Day 19 from the previous week. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share examples from their completed challenges.
- Intro Day 20: The Clean-Up: Absolution - Who Do We Forgive and Who Forgives Us? (1-2 min)
- Read p.136 - p.138 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What is absolution? How would you describe it in your own words?
    - What are some examples of things that don't need to be forgiven?
    - Why is it essential to bring all of our pains and hurts to Jesus?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Made Alive in Christ. - 3-5
    - Options: Have students or student groups read Ephesians 2:1-10. Have them discuss how believers go from a life of condemnation to being truly alive in Christ. Then have them make a list of "good works" that God may prepare for them in advance as believers.
  - "Tetelestai!" Activity. - K-5
    - Option: Read the Red Alert on p.139. Then have students make a list of sins they have committed over the past days, weeks, or months. Then walk around and write a big "T" over their lists and say "Tetelestai!" Discuss how Jesus paid for our sins in full.
  - Make-Up Monday: Work with students to complete work from the previous weekend.
- Review challenge and HW assignments; distribute Week 4 Take Home Sheet. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.139 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, praise God for "Tetelestai-ing" all of our sins.



# WEEK OF THE CLEAN-UP | DAY 21

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Clean-Up (Absolution)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 103:1-5

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how the "clean-up" of our lives is only achievable with Jesus' help.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases." Psalm 103:2-3

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share some of the responses they wrote to the upset people.
- Intro Day 21: The Clean-Up: Absolution - Looking at Both Sides. (1-2 min)
- Read p.140 - p.143 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - Why is listening to others an essential part of forgiveness?
    - How is the forgiveness process like being a detective or historian?
    - How did the early church display Jesus' attitude toward hearing others and reaching others?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Peter's Realization. - 3-5
    - Options: Read Acts 10:1-48; discuss how Jesus changed Peter's mind regarding people other than Jews; ask students to brainstorm ways they can take action to see others like Jesus?
  - Jesus Loves the Little Children Activity. - K-2
    - Option: Sing "Jesus Loves the Little Children" with students. Explain how Jesus loves all children and all people the same, no matter what! Ask them if Jesus loves all children or just certain ones with the right skin color, right skills, or right personality.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.143 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, confess the times when you have not put others first; ask God to help you see other people's needs and put them before your own.



# WEEK OF THE CLEAN-UP | DAY 22

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Clean-Up (Absolution)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 103:1-5

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how the "clean-up" of our lives is only achievable with Jesus' help.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases." Psalm 103:2-3

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share which option they chose and why.
- Intro Day 22: The Clean-Up: Absolution - Forgiveness Is Not a Feeling (1-2 min)
- Read p.144 - p.147 (students circle out of place items in the room) (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What personality type are you - neat and tidy or relaxed and messy?
    - How many times did Jesus say we should forgive others?
    - How does Jesus' unlimited forgiveness drive us to forgive others and clean-up after we 'fess-up?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - Mid-Week Service Project. - K-5
    - Option: Ask the school principal, pastor, or teachers about a service project students can complete for a local children's home, homeless shelter, or any organization that would benefit from a church connection with a focus on forgiveness (or have students brainstorm ideas themselves to serve one of these types of organizations). Develop a plan to carry out the project next week (over two days if needed). Gather supplies and resources as needed. Show the Forgiving Challenge Team your ideas by tagging us on social media using #ForgivingChallengeKids
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.147 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Pray together as a family that God will show you how to offer unlimited forgiveness.



# WEEK OF THE CLEAN-UP | DAY 23

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Clean-Up (Absolution)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 103:1-5

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how the "clean-up" of our lives is only achievable with Jesus' help.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases." Psalm 103:2-3

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share if they cleaned up any messes yesterday.
- Intro Day 23: The Clean-Up: Absolution - When Hate Clouds Our Minds. (1-2 min)
- Read p.150 - p.152 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - How does hate affect us when "climbing the mountain of forgiveness?"
    - What is the difference between anger and hate?
    - According to the apostle Paul, how should we deal with those we love (in Eph. 4:31-32)?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Paul's Sage Advice for Christian Living. - 3-5
    - Options: Have students or student groups read Ephesians 4:17-32. Then have them make a list of "Do's" and "Do Not's" according to the apostle Paul's directions. Have them share out and discuss why these instructions are important.
  - Paul's Sage Advice for Christian Living (mini-version). - K-2
    - Option: Read Ephesians 4:25-32 to students. Create a chart and write down the "Do's" and "Do Not's" that the students recall from the scripture reading (re-read as needed). Discuss why Paul's instructions were so important.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Read challenge on p.152-153 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, thank God for your family, friends, and neighbors; ask for His help to forgive wrongs quickly and thoroughly.



# WEEK OF THE CLEAN-UP | DAY 24

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Clean-Up (Absolution)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 103:1-5

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how the "clean-up" of our lives is only achievable with Jesus' help.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases." Psalm 103:2-3

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Recite Memory Verse. (5-10 min)
  - Options: Earn a reward separately as an individual or as a group.
  - Reward Ideas: treats, badges, Redvale Passport Book Stamp.
- Introduce Day 24: The Clean-Up: Absolution - Don't Hide From Your Problems. (1-2 min)
- Read p.154 - p.156 (5-10 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What is the problem with "stuffing" our problems away and not dealing with them?
    - How are hiding our feelings and forgiveness different?
    - From what can we gain the courage to recognize our sins, confess them, and then try to fix things?
- Read Mountains of Redvale, pt.5. (5-10 min)
  - p.168 - p.179
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions. - 3-5
  - Mountains of Redvale Coloring Sheets. - K-2
- Review weekend HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Read challenge on p.157 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 25: 'The Clean-Up: Absolution - Forgiving is Not Forgetting' with parents/guardians (p.158 - p.161); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 26: 'The Clean-Up: Absolution - God Erases All of Our Sins' with parents/guardians (p.162 - p.165); start the challenge.
- Complete Mountains of Redvale, pt. 5 with parents/guardians (if not completed)
- Pray as a family that God will give you a heart focused on forgiving others.



# WEEK OF THE RISE-UP | DAY 27

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Rise-Up  
(Restoration)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 145:8-9

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how our  
relationship with Jesus and others can be  
restored.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love."  
Psalm 145:8

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and Day 25, Day 26 from the previous week. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share an example from their completed challenges.
- Intro Day 27: The Rise-Up: Restoration - Forgiveness Is Creative. (1-2 min)
- Read p.180 - p.181 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - How is forgiveness like building Legos? Like fixing a broken bone?
    - How does getting revenge for wrongs destroy relationships?
    - How can you be creative in restoring relationships?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: The Parable of the Good Samaritan. - 3-5
    - Options: - Read the passage (Luke 10:25-37) and discuss the action of the Samaritan taking care of the needs of a Jewish man without expecting anything in return.
  - Sorry Bags for Relationship Restoration - K-2
    - Option: Provide a small bag of candy to each student and have them draw a card for someone they need to apologize to. Have them give the card and sweets to the person as a creative way to restore the relationship.
  - Make-Up Monday: Work with students to complete work from the previous weekend.
- Review challenge and HW assignments - distribute Week 5 Take Home Sheet. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.181 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, praise God for making us new every day!



# WEEK OF THE RISE-UP | DAY 28

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Rise-Up  
(Restoration)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 145:8-9

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how our  
relationship with Jesus and others can be  
restored.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love."  
Psalm 145:8

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students what they built yesterday as a reminder of God's restoration.
- Intro Day 28: The Rise-Up: Restoration - Forgiveness Takes Time. (1-2 min)
- Read p.182 - p.184 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - Is forgiveness always quick and easy? Why not?
    - How long did it take Jacob and Esau to mend their relationship?
    - Who can help you "rise from the ashes" just like the pear tree after 9/11?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: The "Long" story of Jacob and Esau - 3-5
    - Options: Divide the students into four groups. Group 1 will read and report on Gen. 25:19-34, Group 2 on Gen. 27:1-46, Group 3 on Gen. 32:1-21, and Group 4 on Gen. 33:1-20. Jigsaw the story pieces together to fully understand how long it took the two brothers to mend their relationship.
  - Rise-Up and Fix That Hurt Activity - K-2
    - Option: Write or draw some examples of wrongs, sins, or hurts they have caused on 3x5 cards. Then have students sit in chairs (possibly in a circle around the room). Read each situation or event separately and ask students to "rise up" (stand) when they can share a way to make the situation right. Ensure they list specific steps to right the wrongs.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.184 - p.185 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, ask for God's plan of restoration to be upon your relationships.



# WEEK OF THE RISE-UP | DAY 29

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Rise-Up  
(Restoration)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 145:8-9

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how our  
relationship with Jesus and others can be  
restored.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love."  
Psalm 145:8

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share a time when they were able to fix wrongs or hurts they caused.
- Intro Day 29: The Rise-Up: Restoration - But I'm Still Mad! (1-2 min)
- Read p.186 - p.188 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - Why is trying to forgive without dealing with our feelings like trying to climb straight up a mountainside?
    - To what do we need to turn when we are wrestling with our emotions about forgiveness?
    - What is the "3rd way" to deal with our feelings (rather than stuffing them down or letting them lead our lives)?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - Mid-Week Service Project. - K-5
    - Options: Carry out the project as planned during the previous week. Ensure all students engage in the service project by assigning "jobs" or working under team leaders (other teachers or helpers). Take pictures and tag the RLC team by using #ForgivingChallengeKids on social media.
- Review challenges and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.189 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Pray together as a family that God will help you seek the "3rd way" to deal with your emotions.



# WEEK OF THE RISE-UP | DAY 30

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Rise-Up  
(Restoration)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 145:8-9

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how our  
relationship with Jesus and others can be  
restored.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love."  
Psalm 145:8

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share examples of their emotions during a forgiveness journey.
- Intro Day 30: The Rise-Up: Restoration - Forgiveness Happens in the Dark. (1-2 min)
- Read p.190 - 192 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What does it mean to do "forgiveness in the dark?"
    - How did Jesus describe his crucifixion?
    - What does Jesus want us to do when we are "in the dark?"
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - Mid-Week Service Project (Day 2 if needed) - K-5
    - Options: Carry out the project as planned during the previous week. Ensure all students engage in the service project by assigning "jobs" or working under team leaders (other teachers or helpers). Take pictures and tag the RLC team by using #ForgivingChallengeKids on social media.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Read challenge on p.193 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Pray as a family and thank God for always having a plan for our lives, even when we can't see everything.



# WEEK OF THE RISE-UP | DAY 31

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness  
Leading for Freedom: The Rise-Up  
(Restoration)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Psalm 145:8-9

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and  
why our relationship with Jesus and others  
can be restored.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love."  
Psalm 145:8

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Recite Memory Verse. (5-10 min)
  - Options: Earn a reward separately as an individual or as a group.
  - Reward Ideas: treats, badges, Redvale Passport Book Stamp.
- Introduce Day 31: The Rise-Up: Restoration - Forgiveness Comes First. (1-2 min)
- Read p.194 - p.197 (5-10 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - Why did Jesus give a new name to Simon (Peter - "the Rock")?
    - Did Peter do everything to write? How was Jesus still able to use him to be the "rock" on which He built the church?
    - Why does forgiveness need to come first for us to grow into who God calls us to be?
- Read Winds of Redvale, pt.6. (5-10 min)
  - p.208 - p.219
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions. - 3-5
  - Mountains of Redvale Coloring Sheets. - K-2
- Review weekend HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Read challenge on p.197 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 32: 'The Rise-Up: Restoration - Forgiving Yourself' with parents/guardians (p.198 - p.201); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 33: 'The Rise-Up: Restoration - God's Plan to Restore the World' with parents/guardians (p.202 - p.205); start the challenge.
- Complete Mountains of Redvale, pt.6 with parents/guardians (if not completed)
- Pray as a family that God will give you reassurance in His forgiving power.



# WEEK OF THE STEP-UP | DAY 34

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Step-Up (Sanctification)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Romans 8:14-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain why we share the gift of forgiveness with others.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought your adoption to sonship." Romans 8:15

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and Day 32, Day 33 from the previous week. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share examples from their completed challenges.
- Intro Day 34: The Step-Up: Sanctification - Redemptive Remembering. (1-2 min)
- Read p.220 - p.223 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - What is sanctification? Can you describe it in your own words?
    - Why did Moses want the Israelites to remember painful situations?
    - How does "Redemptive Remembering" work?
    - Why is it essential to adjust our zoom to include hurt and healing?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review Bible Verses and Recite Memory Verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: The Ark of the Covenant. - 3-5
    - Options: Read Hebrews 9:3-4 and discuss how the items in the Ark remind us of God's promises to us. Reference as needed: Exodus 16: 32-33; 25:10-22; 26:31-33; 30:1-5; 31:18; 32:15.
  - Ask Your Elders Activity - K-5
    - Option: Have students commit to asking at least 3 "elders" for examples of how God has delivered them from hurts or tricky situations in the past. "Elders" could be parents/guardians, grandparents, aunts or uncles, teachers, pastors, etc. Encourage students to write these down or make drawings as reminders about God's Redemptive power.
  - Make-Up Monday: Work with students to complete work from the previous weekend.
- Review challenge and HW assignments; distribute Week 6 Take Home Sheet. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.224 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, praise God for providing Redemptive Rememberings of His grace.



# WEEK OF THE STEP-UP | DAY 35

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Step-Up (Sanctification)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Romans 8:14-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain why we share the gift of forgiveness with others.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought your adoption to sonship." Romans 8:15

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share examples of how they "zoomed out" to see the whole picture of their past hurts.
- Intro Day 35: The Step-Up: Sanctification - Forgiveness Moves at Different Speeds. (1-2 min)
- Read p.226 - p.227 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - How does practicing forgiveness keep us moving forward?
    - How many times should we offer forgiveness to someone?
    - What should we do when forgiveness seems to be taking too long?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: Word Study - Rebuke - 3-5
    - Option: Have students or student groups define the word rebuke from today's lesson. Have them study how the word is used in the Bible verses: 1 Tim. 5:20, Titus 2:15, 2 Tim. 4:2, 2 Tim. 3:16-17, Prov. 1:23
  - All aboard the Forgiveness Train - K-2
    - Option: have students draw or write two examples of forgiveness as "tickets" to get on the Forgiveness Train. Have them use one ticket to do a short ride around the classroom (students can form a train by holding each other's shoulders in a line; the teacher or a specific student can lead). Have them use the second ticket for a long ride (maybe somewhere in the school or church, upstairs possibly, anywhere there is a nice view). Explain how forgiveness can take a long time in some situations, but the picture at the end is fantastic!
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.228 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, confess to God the times when you may have been impatient with Him.



# WEEK OF THE STEP-UP | DAY 36

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Step-Up (Sanctification)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Romans 8:14-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain why we share the gift of forgiveness with others.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought your adoption to sonship." Romans 8:15

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share some of their "beautiful views."
- Intro Day 36: The Step-Up: Sanctification - Forgiveness Makes Us Different. (1-2 min)
- Read p.230 - p.232 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - As Christians, why are we "foreigners" here on Earth?
    - How does forgiveness make us different?
    - How should we act, being that our natural home is in Heaven?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: The Good Samaritan - 3-5
    - Option: Have students read Luke 10:25-37. Ask the students why Jesus used a priest (Jew), a Levite (Jew), and a Samaritan (a hated foreigner) in the story. Ask why the Samaritan was the hero of this parable. Challenge the students to "go and do likewise" as the Samaritan did; be different because of God's forgiveness!
  - Challenge Completion Fun! - K-5
    - Option: Have students pair off and complete the challenge on p.232 - p.233. Ensure students follow the directions and get all the words first before completing the story. Once they have the terms, they can fill in their Mad Libs and share them with the class. For younger grades, possibly do this whole class; the teacher can ask for the words and write them down; read the story once completed.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Read challenge on p.232 - p.233 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Pray together as a family that God will help you be "different" because of His forgiveness.



# WEEK OF THE STEP-UP | DAY 37

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Step-Up (Sanctification)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Romans 8:14-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain why we share the gift of forgiveness with others.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought your adoption to sonship." Romans 8:15

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share any learnings from yesterday's challenge.
- Intro Day 37: The Step-Up: Sanctification - Forgiveness Is Not a Solo Climb. (1-2 min)
- Read p.234 - p.236 (10-15 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - Why do we need to be with other believers as we follow Jesus?
    - How will working together (as the body of Christ) help us when we get "bumps, stings, and deep cuts?"
    - What has God promised us as we love and serve the world?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation) - K-5
  - A Higher Climb: The Rest of the Spicturetory (cont. From 1 Peter 4 on p.236) - 3-5
    - Option: Have students continue reading 1 Peter 4:12-19. Have them write a short 3-5 sentence answer to the following question: when the going gets tough (like when you are climbing the mountain of forgiveness), what should we do as Christians?
  - Trust Fall Activity - K-5
    - Option: conduct the traditional trust fall game with the class (for younger grades, have an extra teacher to teacher aid assist in catching students as they fall backward from a standing position). Explain how we depend on other Christians as we live out our story of faith.
- Review challenge and HW assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Read challenge on p.237 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- As a family, thank God for His church that is full of other faith-filled believers.



# WEEK OF THE STEP-UP | DAY 38

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom: The Step-Up (Sanctification)

## BIBLE VERSES:

Romans 8:14-17

## OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain why we share the gift of forgiveness with others.

## MEMORY VERSE:

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought your adoption to sonship." Romans 8:15

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer. (1-2 min)
- Recite Memory Verse. (5-10 min)
  - Options: Earn a reward separately as an individual or as a group.
  - Reward Ideas: treats, badges, Redvale Passport Book Stamp.
- Intro Day 38: The Step-Up: Sanctification - Love Your Enemies. (1-2 min)
- Read p.238 - p.241 (students will fill in signposts) (5-10 min)
  - Discussion Questions:
    - When we are on the path to forgiveness and experience anger along the way, what are the two paths we can choose?
    - How does Jesus command us to treat our enemies in Matthew 5?
    - How can we begin to change the feelings of pain (after being hurt) to feelings of forgiveness?
- Read Mountains of Redvale, pt.7. (5-10 min)
  - p.256 - p.267
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
  - Mountains of Redvale Discussion Questions. - 3-5
  - Mountains of Redvale Coloring Sheets. - K-2
- Review weekend HW Assignments. (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## HOMEWORK:

- Read challenge on p.241 with parents/guardians; start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 39: 'Step-Up: Sanctification - Forgiveness Frees You to Help Others' with parents/guardians (p.242 - p.245); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 40: 'Step-Up: Sanctification - Forgiveness: The Best Prize of All' with parents/guardians (p.246 - p.251); start the challenge.
- Complete Mountains of Redvale, pt.7 with parents/guardians (if not completed)
- Pray as a family that you will continue to follow the 5 phases of forgiveness.



# CELEBRATION DAY!

FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



## THEME:

FORGIVE like Jesus.

## BIBLE VERSES:

John 13:34-35

## OBJECTIVE:

Recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of students, parents/guardians, school faculty/staff, and, most importantly, Jesus!

## MEMORY VERSE:

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

## AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer (1-2 min)
- Review HW and Day 39, Day 40 from the previous week. (4-5 min)
  - Ask students to share examples from their completed challenges.
- Intro "Now What" Day (1-2 min)
- Read p.252 - p.255 (5-10 min)
  - Discussion Question:
    - Where should our focus be? (UP - always focused UP!)
- Celebration Options:
  - Celebrate on Sunday if doing FC with the associated church.
  - Host an FC Graduation Ceremony to celebrate accomplishments.
  - Create and hold a play or skit depicting the story of Peter and how he denied Jesus three times by a charcoal fire and how Jesus forgave and restored him by a similar charcoal fire.
  - Host a Field Day celebration with "challenges" for students. (ie. bounce houses, races, obstacle courses, field day events like tug of war, etc.)
  - Host a drive-through car wash or other fundraiser put on by students; donate funds to a charity, a church, a missions project, or another school-based project.
  - Conduct a student-led food drive, clothing drive, or another initiative to give back to the local community.
  - Other school-based celebrations of FC Kids accomplishments.
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

## NOTES:



FORGIVING  
CHALLENGE  
KIDS



# FORGIVING KIDS

CHALLENGE

## WEEK 1 | INTRO TO FORGIVING KIDS TAKE HOME SHEET

### Theme

Introducing Peter and the 5 Phases of Forgiveness

### Memory Verse

*Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."* **Luke 5:5**

### Bible Verses

**Luke 5: 2-11**

### Big Ideas

- ➡ Jesus's forgiveness is where it all starts.
- ➡ Everyone will have to practice both forgiving others and being forgiven themselves.
- ➡ Jesus calls Peter to be a "fisher of men."
- ➡ Jesus also wants us to follow Him and be fishers of men.

### Dear Parents:

In *Forgiving Challenge Kids*, we will take the next six weeks to look at forgiveness from the perspective of Peter in the Bible. What were his mess-ups? What did he have to 'fess up to? What mess needed to be cleaned up? How did Peter rise up after? When Peter got forgiven, what step up did he take in his life? Forgiveness always requires an honest look at ourselves, so encourage your child(ren) to talk to you about each phase and be transparent about your journey. Watch for our weekly challenge!

### Challenge:

What are the 5 Phases of Forgiveness?

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_



# FORGIVING KIDS CHALLENGE

## WEEK 2 | THE MESS-UP KIDS TAKE HOME SHEET

### Theme

The first of 5 Phases of Forgiveness: The Mess-up (Sin)

### Memory Verse

Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance? **Micah 7:18**

### Bible Verses

**John 18:15-18, 23-27**

### Big Ideas

- ➡ Sin is where we miss the mark.
- ➡ Sin separates us from God.
- ➡ A Mess-Up happens when we are stepping outside of God's leading.
- ➡ Forgiving always starts with a Mess-up.

### Dear Parents:

We found it's easy to point out other people's messes, it's alot harder to admit when we have messed up. Either, it's no fun when Mess Ups happen. Everybody messes up, but not everyone knows how to deal with the Mess Up after it happens. In our story Red the Fox steals something really valuable, and Peter shares how he messed up three times in a row. Thankfully no matter how ugly our Mess Ups are, Jesus ALWAYS can handle it. When we run into His arms, He helps us face even the scariest situations.

### Challenge:

Everyone deals with conflict differently. Make a chart like the one below so each family member can mark what they think they are after a Mess Up. Learning to recognize how we deal with emotions and Mess Ups helps us figure out problems when they come along. Rather than fight or flight, Jesus wants us to go to Him with our feelings. When we pray, read the Bible, and seek wise counsel. After all, Jesus didn't fight or flight, He died and rose to be our Light!

| NAME        | FIGHT<br>(I WANT TO TALK IT OUT,<br>LET'S FACE THE MUSIC!) | FLIGHT<br>(NO WAY, GET ME OUT OF THERE!<br>I AM GOING TO GO HIDE NOW.) |
|-------------|--|--|
| 1 Your Name | ✓  |  |
| 2 Your Name |  | ✓  |



## WEEK 3 | THE 'FESS-UP KIDS TAKE HOME SHEET

FROM RED LETTER CHALLENGE

# FORGIVING KIDS CHALLENGE

### Theme

The second of 5 Phases of Forgiveness: The 'Fess-up (Confession)

### Memory Verse

*"... But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love ..."*

**Nehemiah 9:17**

### Bible Verses

**John 13:3-17**

### Big Ideas

- ➡ We can forgive others even if they don't deserve it.
- ➡ Our forgiveness removes the stain of sin.
- ➡ When we are honest about our hurts or sin, we will find we are not alone.
- ➡ It's tempting to hide our sin, but forgiveness allows us to be honest about who we are.

### Dear Parents:

In the journey of Forgiveness, confessing, or 'Fessing Up to our sin or our hurt is really important. We don't always want to admit something hurt us. We also don't always want to admit our own Mess Ups. But we learned that God gives us a brand new chance every day. He is the king of second, third, even a million chances. We also know that when we "Fess Up to our sin, no matter how bad it might feel, that healing is coming to our hurts. Peter made a confession that Jesus is the Christ, and Jesus uses that confession as the Rock to build the church on. Amazing! Peter wrote 2 books of the Bible that you can read today, and he became an incredible missionary. God can use anyone for His glory!

### Challenge:

As a family, spend some time confessing your feelings to each other with no punishment. Do it around a firepit, or maybe at bedtime when it's dark. Sometimes it's easier to 'Fess Up to something in the dark. Give your child an opportunity to share something with you without worrying about a consequence. Some possible questions might be:

- 1 Did I ever do something that really hurt you but you didn't tell me?
- 2 Was there ever a time someone hurt your feelings but you didn't want to admit it?
- 3 What was a time you did something and never told anyone because you didn't want to get in trouble?



# FORGIVING KIDS

## WEEK 4 | THE CLEAN-UP KIDS TAKE HOME SHEET

### Theme

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness: The Clean-up (Absolution)

### Memory Verse

*Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases. Psalm 103:2-4*

### Bible Verses

**Matthew 16:13-19**

### Big Ideas

- ➡ Forgiveness erases sin.
- ➡ Forgiveness is unlimited!
- ➡ When we have forgiveness, our old life will be removed.
- ➡ We cannot clean up our own messes, only Jesus can do that.

### Dear Parents:

Today we learned that every big Mess needs a Clean Up. Peter messed up big time by denying Jesus three times, but Jesus still chose him. We don't need to worry about Cleaning Up our mess of sin, Jesus took care of that sin when He died on the cross. Because we are forgiven children of God, it is easier for us to work on cleaning up messes we make or to help others clean up their own messes. With Jesus's help, even the biggest messes can be restored brand new!

### Challenge:

Help someone clean up a mess today. Maybe you need to sort out that closet you've been putting off. Maybe you can help someone else with a project like your grandma or someone who can't get around easily. Cleaning up a mess on the outside is hard, but cleaning up a mess on the inside can be much more tricky. As you clean, think about how Jesus has cleaned your inside as well as your outside!

Write this on your fridge or put it somewhere where you will see it to remind the family of the three steps in an apology:

- 1 OWN IT.** Admit to your mistake.
- 2 SHOW IT.** Demonstrate that you are sorry with your words, actions, and body language.
- 3 ASK IT.** Ask how you can make it right.



# FORGIVING KIDS

CHALLENGE

## WEEK 5 | THE RISE-UP KIDS TAKE HOME SHEET

### Theme

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness: The Rise-up (Restoration)

### Memory Verse

*The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. Psalm 145:8*

### Bible Verses

**John 21:1-14 NIV**

### Big Ideas

- ➡ Forgiveness doesn't just remove sin, it restores us back to a right relationship with Jesus.
- ➡ Unforgiveness leaves us feeling empty and bitter.
- ➡ God's forgiveness changes us from the inside out.
- ➡ Even though Mess-Ups hurt, forgiveness makes friendships even better.

### Dear Parents:

Today your child learned that even after a clean up and repairation has been made, there is still a process to forgiveness. This 4th phase of forgiveness is called Restoration, or the Rise Up. When kids learn about forgiveness from TV shows, often the scene stops after the Clean Up phase: there's a mess up, then after a 'fess up the conflict get's cleaned up. It's in the Rise Up that hard times and backsliding can happen, and tv shows and books don't always show that. Even after we hear "I forgive you", or "I'm sorry", there is often anger, or even a lack of trust. Even through frustration or broken trust, a restored relationship is the goal of forgiveness. How do we know? That was the goal of Jesus when He came to Earth. He wasn't just interested in saving us, but He wants a restored relationship with us. This continues after your baptism, and throughout your life.

### Challenge:

Go climbing today. It could just be up a jungle gym at the park, or it could be a climbing wall at your local climbing center. No matter if you are climbing on boulders, with a fancy harness, a snow pile or a pile of cushions in your living room, think about how climbing takes time.

- 1 What is something you may have thought you have forgiven but it is still making you mad when you think about it?
- 2 Talk to someone about those feelings. Why do you still feel angry or hurt?
- 3 It takes time to restore a relationship. Write down how long you may need to feel 100% better. Whether it's a few days or even a few years, make it a goal to completely let go of your frustrated and hurt feelings.



**Theme**

The Last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness: The Step-Up (Sanctification)

**Memory Verse**

*The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. **Romans 8:15***

**Bible Verses**

**John 21:15-18**

**Big Ideas**

- ➡ Jesus forgives us so we can share that gift of forgiveness with others.
- ➡ One thing everyone has in common is that they have been forgiven.
- ➡ Forgiveness bridges the gap between us and God.
- ➡ When we each bring our own talents and abilities, we can create something new!

**Dear Parents:**

Sanctification is a big word. Not only is it a big word, but it packs a punch in it's meaning: the act of making or declaring something as holy. It is the action or process of being freed from sin or purified. When we talk about the last phase in forgiveness, Stepping Up, what we are really wanting our students to see is that the process of being freed from sin is the work of Jesus. It's always been His saving power. But we are invited to be a part of that process of being made holy. They may not save themselves, but they can help free someone else. When a Mess Up happens, your child is owed a debt of pain. When they forgive, they are freeing that other person from their "pain debt". In order to do that, they have to absorb that pain. They are letting go of their right to get even or make things fair. Stepping up to that challenge is a big one, but we know your child has what it takes to accept this challenge. They have the power of the Holy Spirit on their side. If God is for them, who can be against them? (**Romans 8:31**)

**Challenge:**

Discuss the following questions as a family. Identify one person that can be released from their debt.

- Who needs to be released from a debt they owe you? What did they do to create that debt? What will it cost you to forgive? How painful will it be to forgive [rate from "pretty easy" (1) or "hardest thing ever" (10)]? Do you need to talk with this person? (Yes/No)

As a family, commit to forgiving this person in your life. No matter what. No strings attached. Simply because God's forgiveness for you is big enough to cover it.

