

FROM RED LETTER CHALLENGE

FORGIVING

CHALLENGE



A 40-DAY LIFE-CHANGING JOURNEY TO FREEDOM

ZACH ZEHNDER

DAILY SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM

SCHOOL LEADERS + TEACHER LETTER

**FORGIVING
CHALLENGE**



HELLO SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, DEANS, + TEACHERS:

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

First, we want to say 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 book? The book is the foundation of our 40-day adventure together during which we will find forgiveness and true freedom through daily readings, activities, and challenges. Implementation of the FC book and challenge process will last over 40 days starting with 5 days of introduction, or Warm-Up, in which the 5 phases of Forgiving Challenge are presented (SCARS):

- **S**in
- **C**onfession
- **A**bsolution
- **R**estoration
- **S**anctification

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

What is the Forgiving Challenge Middle/High 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
- Activities, projects, and discussion questions related to the text
- FREE videos, 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. These lessons are written to fit your needs:

- 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! 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. There are options for the kids to choose every day. These are not intended to be a burden, but something they can look forward to accomplishing every day!

I have a book, where do I start? We recommend that you take the time to familiarize yourself with the RLC book, specifically reviewing the introduction on pages 6-21. The RLL website also has ample information and resources to make this curriculum as easy and user-friendly as possible.

We pray that not only your school, but your entire community will be energized through this 40-day Challenge. It is our goal 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 young people'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

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



FC SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM RESOURCES:

- **FC Book Information:**

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

- **FC School Leader/Teacher Letter** (previous page)
- **FC Student/Parent Commitment Letter** (following pages)
- **FC 40-Day Calendar** (following pages)
- **More “Free Resources” for FC** (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 Small Group Videos** Weekly Videos (Teacher discretion as to the day of the week to view in class)
- **FC Weekly Small Group Discussion Guides**
- **FC Graphics Package**

RLC Social Media:

 <http://facebook.com/redletterchallenge>

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

 <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGaCGYKmYemdm7sRsIFkG9w>

Have Questions or need help?

- Contact and Support: <https://redletterchallenge.com/contact-and-support/>
- Email: hello@redletterchallenge.com



40-DAY COMMITMENT LETTER

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



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 own personal life. This year, one way we are accomplishing this goal is by incorporating a new 40-Day Bible Study called Forgiving Challenge (FC) 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 all scripture-based and forgiveness-focused.

Forgiveness is a journey we all must take in order 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 as a result of 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! As He stated in John 10:10, "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. Please keep the included calendar for your planning purposes.

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

_____ (student's signature)

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

_____ (parent/guardian's signature)

Yes, I can purchase the FC book for \$_____.

Yes, I can purchase the FC book for another student who needs assistance.

No, we cannot afford the FC book. We would like financial support.



40-DAY COMMITMENT LETTER

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



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 (FC) 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 the daily readings and completing *Forgiving Challenge*.

_____ (student's signature)

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

_____ (parent/guardian's signature)



40-DAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



LET'S DO THIS!

We are so excited to begin the *Forgiving Challenge* (FC) 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>*LAUNCH SUNDAY</p>	<p>WEEK OF WARM-UP</p> <p>LET'S DO THIS!</p> <p>INTRO DAY</p>	<p>EVERYONE BEGINS READING DAY 1</p> <p>DAY 1</p>	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5
<p>AT THIS POINT, STUDENTS WILL BE ONE DAY BEHIND IF PARTNERING WITH ASSOCIATED CHURCH</p>	<p>WEEK OF SIN</p> <p>*DAY 6</p>	DAY 7	DAY 8	DAY 9	DAY 10	DAY 11
DAY 12	<p>WEEK OF CONFESSION</p> <p>DAY 13</p>	DAY 14	DAY 15	DAY 16	DAY 17	DAY 18
DAY 19	<p>WEEK OF ABSOLUTION</p> <p>DAY 20</p>	DAY 21	DAY 22	DAY 23	DAY 24	DAY 25
DAY 26	<p>WEEK OF RESTORATION</p> <p>DAY 27</p>	DAY 28	DAY 29	DAY 30	DAY 31	DAY 32
DAY 33	<p>WEEK OF SANCTIFICATION</p> <p>DAY 34</p>	DAY 35	DAY 36	DAY 37	DAY 38	DAY 39
DAY 40	<p>*WRAP-UP/ CELEBRATION DAY</p> <p>*OPTIONAL</p>					

NOTES:



WEEK OF WARM-UP | INTRODUCTION DAY

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom:
Sin, **C**onfession, **A**bsolution, **R**estoration, and **S**anctification

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) book (10-12 min)
 - Distribute FC book and Student/Parent Commitment Letters; request return
 - Review FC book structure, The challenges, The 5 main Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom
 - Read p.6 - p.19
 - Discussion Question: Do you have a harder time receiving forgiveness for yourself or giving forgiveness for others?
 - Review SCARS Acronym
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - [Intro: 5 Phases of Freedom Small Group Video](#)
 - Have students review the "Group Promise" on the [Week 1 Small Group Discussion Guide](#); have students make a pledge of commitment.
- Review homework (HW) assignments and Commitment Letter (2-3 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review Student/Parent Commitment Letter and get parent/guardian signatures.
- Read p.6 - p.19 if not completed in class.
- Praise God for the opportunity to learn about His gracious forgiveness.



WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 1

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom:
Sin, **C**onfession, **A**bsolution, **R**estoration, and **S**anctification

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)
- Introduce the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom in FC and the "Warmup" Week (5 min)
- Intro Day 1: Sin (1-2 min)
- Read p.22 - p.25 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Why is it important to understand and accept that we are all sinners?
 - God loves you as you are, but does he want you to stay as you are?
 - What is the admission price to access God's freedom?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse (choral recitation)
 - [Intro: 5 Phases of Freedom Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: How was David, a sinful human, a man after God's own heart?
 - 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. Discuss how David is an example that all of us can follow even though we are sinners in chasing God's heart.
- Review HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review Memory Verse.
- Thank God for His loving and forgiving character that makes all the difference for us as sinners.



WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 2

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom:
Sin, **C**onfession, **A**bsolution, **R**estoration, and **S**anctification

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)
- Intro Day 2: Confession (1-2 min)
- Read p.26 - p.29 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How will our actions after we sin impact our lives?
 - What is the difference between guilt and shame?
 - What is the purpose of confession?
 - What is repentance?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [Intro: 5 Phases of Freedom Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Pharisee vs. Tax Collector - Who was Justified?
 - Option: have students or student groups read the following verses - Luke 18:9-14; have students share their findings and answer these questions: Why was the tax collector the one who was justified? What does this tell you about the impact of confessing your sins? What does this show you about your ability to fix your problems and sins?
- Review HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Thank God for His love and availability to hear our confessions.



WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 3

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom:
Sin, **C**onfession, **A**bsolution, **R**estoration, and **S**anctification

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)
- Intro Day 3: Absolution (1-2 min)
- Read p.30 - p.35 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How would you describe forgiveness?
 - What is justification? Absolution?
 - What was God's answer to the "sin problem?" Why was it perfect?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [Intro: 5 Phases of Freedom Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Absolution's Impact on the Apostle Paul
 - Option: Have students read 1 Tim. 1:13-17. Then research Paul's history by reading Acts 7:54-60; Acts 8:1-3; Acts 9:1-31. Ask them to describe the type of man Paul was and how Jesus changed him through forgiveness.
- Review HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

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



WEEK OF WARM-UP | DAY 4

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

Introducing the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading for Freedom:
Sin, **C**onfession, **A**bsolution, **R**estoration, and **S**anctification

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)
- Recite Memory Verse (5-10 min)
 - Options: each student separately to earn a reward or as a group to earn a reward
 - Reward Ideas: grades, extra credit opportunity, etc.
- Intro Day 4: Restoration (1-2 min)
- Read p.36 - p.39 (5-10 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What is the difference between absolution and restoration (in terms of freedom)?
 - How long does it take for restoration to happen after absolution?
 - How does seeing God as a "loving father" change your viewpoint?
 - After being restored, what is your purpose now?
 - Introduce and Review Day 5 for weekend reading.
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - [Intro: 5 Phases of Freedom Small Group Video](#)
 - Fun Friday:
 - Trash Can Target Practice - gather five trash cans (or buckets) and label each one with one of the 5 phases of forgiveness (SCARS). Have students write their name on five sheets of paper, then write one phase on each piece, and then wad them into balls (have students track which ball is which phase). Read a short description of each target to the students (without using the target's name). Next, students choose which ball (which phase) to use and then shoot it at that specific trash can. Repeat for each target. Count points made after five rounds; points must be the correct ball (target) in the right trash can.
- Review weekend HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Read and complete Day 5: Sanctification on p.40 - p.43.
- Pray that God will help you understand the depth of His forgiveness.



WEEK OF SIN | DAY 6

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Sin.

BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they sin 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 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom from the previous week. (4-5 min)
 - Ask students which warmup was their favorite and why.
- Intro Day 6: Snub-Nosed to Big Boulder (1-2 min)
- Read p.46 - p.50 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Why is Peter such an essential character in the Gospels?
 - How did Peter receive his name? What does it mean?
 - What did Jesus see in Peter? What does He see in you?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review Bible Verses and recite memory verse (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 2 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Peter's Declaration.
 - Option: Have students read Matthew 16:13-19. Have students discuss their answers to these questions: what happened when Peter declared who Jesus was? What happens when we do the same?
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete challenge on p.51.
- Praise God for providing His forgiveness to us just as he did to Peter.



WEEK OF SIN | DAY 7

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Sin.

BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they sin 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 which of their names or nicknames are essential and why.
- Intro Day 7: Big Boulder or Big Blunder? (1-2 min)
- Read p.52 - p.55 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Why is it significant that Jesus anoints Peter in Caesarea Philippi?
 - Why is Peter "singled-out" for his statements?
 - Why do bad decisions and sin leave us empty on the inside?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 2 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Have students share and then pray.
 - Option: Ask students what that they are struggling with, what they are dealing with, and what sins may be hindering their lives. Lead them in a prayer addressing their concerns with God. Or, have students pair up and pray for each other's concerns; have them use the A-C-T-S model of prayer if needed.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete challenge on p.56 - p.57.
- Pray and confess to God those times when you may have let Him down; accept His forgiveness.



WEEK OF SIN | DAY 8

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Sin.

BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they sin 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 using A-C-T-S or reciting the Lord's Prayer (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share what they prayed about yesterday.
- Intro Day 8: Big Deal or No Big Deal? (1-2 min)
- Read p.58 - p.61 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - In God's eyes, are there differences in sins? Why?
 - How are we just like Peter?
 - What does sin do to our relationship with God? How is it restored?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 2 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Jesus, the Lamb of God.
 - Option: Have one set of students read Exodus 12:1-13. Have another set read Hebrews 9:11-15. Have students share out and compare how the blood of the Lamb of the Passover is similar to the blood of Jesus. Ask them how Jesus' blood, spilled on the cross, is a representation of God's Grace and Love. Finally, ask them what the "Lamb of God" does for our relationship with God.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete challenge on p.61.
- Thank God for providing His Grace that covers a "multitude of sins." (1 Peter 4:8b)



WEEK OF SIN | DAY 9

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Sin.

BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they sin 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 are an "elevator" or "minimizer?" Take a class poll.
- Intro Day 9: Law and Gospel (1-2 min)
- Read p.62 - p.65 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Why is it important to identify specific sins during confession?
 - How does God use both the Law and the Gospel?
 - What is the first step in receiving freedom from sins?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 2 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Jesus - the Fulfillment of the Law
 - Option: Ask students to read Matt. 5:17-20. Then divide students into small groups to study Matt. 5:21-26, Matt. 5:27-30, Matt. 5:31-32, Matt. 5:33-37, Matt. 5:38-42, and Matt. 5:43-48. Have each group share their section of scripture. Ask the students to determine the reason why Jesus was presenting these laws in His sermon after declaring himself the fulfillment of the law.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Complete challenge on p.66 - p.67.
- Pray that God will show you specific sins in your life from which you need to turn and repent.



WEEK OF SIN | DAY 10

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Sin.

BIBLE VERSES:

Micah 7:18-19

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain how and why they sin 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: each student separately to earn a reward or as a group to earn a reward
 - Reward Ideas: grades, extra credit opportunity, etc.
- Intro Day 10: The Great Omission (1-2 min)
- Read p.68 - p.72 (5-10 min)
 - Discussion Questions and Challenges:
 - What does omission mean? What is a "sin of omission?"
 - What is the difference between being a true disciple and a "Christian?"
 - What happens to the viewpoint of our sin as we get closer to Jesus?
 - Introduce and Review Day 11 and Day 12 for weekend reading
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - [FC Week 2 Small Group Video](#)
 - Fun Friday:
 - The Life and Times of Peter - read the "89th chapter of the Gospels" (John 21:1-25 located on p.270 - p.271; Day 12 challenge can also be utilized as a resource). Next, have students develop a skit or play depicting Peter's life (his calling to follow Jesus, his character, his calling to lead the church, his denial of Jesus, his restoration, etc.) Finally, have them update and edit the skit/play as the challenge continues (students will present on celebration day in the end).
- Review challenge and Weekend HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Complete the challenge on p.73.
- Read and complete Day 11: Killing Spiders and Lambs (p.74 - p.79); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 12: #Chapter89 (p.80 - p.85); start the challenge.
- Pray that God will show you the roadmap to becoming a true disciple of Jesus.



WEEK OF CONFESSION | DAY 13

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The second of the The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Confession.

BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the need for confession and steps to take in confessing their sins.

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 examples from their completed challenges
- Intro Day 13: Confession Alternatives (1-2 min)
- Read p.88 - p.94 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What are the two ways we typically deal with a challenging or dangerous situation?
 - How does the devil use sin for his purposes?
 - How does God want us to handle the sin in our lives?
 - What does freedom offered to us through God's Grace allow us to do?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 3 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: How have you treated your sin?
 - Option: Have students divide one sheet of paper into four quadrants. Have them label each quadrant: blaming others, trying harder, denying your sin, or minimizing your sin. Then have them write down some times when they committed these common mistakes in each quadrant. Finally, have students share their experiences and then lead them in a prayer of confession and repentance.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.95.
- Praise God for His forgiving character and His love.



WEEK OF CONFESSION | DAY 14

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The second of the The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Confession.

BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the need for confession and steps to take in confessing their sins.

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 any students want to share their experiences.
- Intro Day 14: Spoiler Alert (1-2 min)
- Read p.96 - p.101 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - To what did Peter return after Jesus' crucifixion? Why?
 - To what do we turn when we sin or let down God?
 - How does Jesus treat us in our failures?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 3 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Jesus Forgiving Peter in the Gospels of Mark and John
 - Option: Divide students into two groups. One group reads Mark 14:66-72 and reports. The other group reads John 21:10-19 and reports. Discuss how Jesus restored Peter to be the leader of His church (not condemned for his denials).
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.102 - p.103.
- Confess your sins, ask for forgiveness, and seek to forgive others as God forgives us.



WEEK OF CONFESSION | DAY 15

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The second of the The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Confession.

BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the need for confession and steps to take in confessing their sins.

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 any realizations or "breakthroughs" from Challenges
- Intro Day 15: 'Fess Up to the Mess-Up (1-2 min)
- Read p.104 - p.107 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How is God's justice system different from our justice system today?
 - What did David do that was right after doing so many things wrong?
 - How is a BC person different from an AD person?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 3 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: David's Confession
 - Option: Review Higher Climb from Day 1 (David as a sinful man, yet a man after God's own heart). Have students read all of Psalm 32. Ask students to explain how David described those that follow God, ask for His forgiveness, etc. Then ask them to reiterate how David was a man after God's own heart.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete the challenge on p.107.
- Thank God for not judging us according to our sins, but according to Jesus' perfect offering.



WEEK OF CONFESSION | DAY 16

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The second of the The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Confession.

BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the need for confession and steps to take in confessing their sins.

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 recite the memory verse from the challenge (John 1:8-9).
- Intro Day 16: Cannonball Confidence (1-2 min)
- Read p.108 - p.112 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How should we approach God after we "drop the ball?"
 - Why did God tear the veil in the Temple upon Jesus' death?
 - Do we need to "have it all together" before approaching God?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 3 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: What happened when Jesus died?
 - Option: Have students read Matt. 27:45-56. Have the students list the miraculous signs that happened upon Jesus' death. Have them discuss and share why these things happened at that moment if there are any other symbols like the curtain being torn.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.113.
- Pray that God will help you remember what Jesus did for you in taking on all sins.



WEEK OF CONFESSION | DAY 17

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The second of the The first of the 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Confession.

BIBLE VERSES:

Nehemiah 9:16-17

OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to explain the need for confession and steps to take in confessing their sins.

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: each student separately to earn a reward or as a group to earn a reward
 - Reward Ideas: grades, extra credit opportunity
- Introduce Day 17: Confession Through Concession (1-2 min)
- Read p.114 - p.117 (5-10 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How did Peter deliver both the best and worst confessions in the Gospels?
 - How did Jesus respond to Peter's "worst confession?"
 - How does Peter finally confess his sin to Jesus?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - [FC Week 3 Small Group Video](#)
 - Fun Friday:
 - Four Corners Forgiveness - have students rate themselves (1-10, with 1 being poor, 10 being excellent) on the following: how easily do you recognize your own sins, how easily do you confess your sins to God, and how easily do you receive His forgiveness. Have students go to corners of the room based on their ratings for question 1 (corner 1 - 1-3, corner 2 - 4-6, corner 3 - 7-8, corner 4 - 9-10). Have students in each group explain their ratings and then regroup for questions 2, 3, following the same process.
- Review challenge and Weekend HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Complete the challenge on p.118 - 119.
- Read and complete Day 18: Confession Helps Your Confession (p.120 - p.125); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 19: Be Weak Every Week (p.126 - p.131); start the challenge.
- Pray that God will help you to complete your challenges and follow Him.



WEEK OF ABSOLUTION | DAY 20

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Absolution.

BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 103:1-5

OBJECTIVE:

Students will explain how the absolution 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."
Psalms 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: Surgery Needed (1-2 min)
- Read p.134 - p.138 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What is the only way to conquer sin?
 - How is pain part of the healing process?
 - Will you allow Jesus to enter into your worst moments? What do you think He will do in those moments?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 4 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Extension of the lesson (Complete the challenge).
 - Options: Have students complete writing Jeremiah 32:27 three times. Then work through the challenge questions together as a group, focusing on the final question: do you believe He (Jesus) can bring healing into those places? Work with students to build their faith in Jesus.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete the challenge on p.139 (if not done in class).
- Praise God for loving us first despite our sinfulness.



WEEK OF ABSOLUTION | DAY 21

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Absolution.

BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 103:1-5

OBJECTIVE:

Students will explain how the absolution 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."
Psalms 103:2-3

AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day (4-5 min)
 - Have students recite Jeremiah 32:27
- Intro Day 21: Charcoal Chances (1-2 min)
- Read p.140 - p.144 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How can our point of view impact our view of God's forgiveness?
 - What is the importance of the charcoal fires in the Gospel of John?
 - Why did Jesus bring Peter back to the "charcoal fire moment?"
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 4 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Made Alive in Christ.
 - 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. Relate this to Peter's restoration from sinner to the "rock" upon which Jesus would build His Church. Then have them make a list of "good works" that God may prepare for them in advance as believers.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete the challenge on p.145.
- Confess the times when you have let God down in the most critical times; thank Him for His forgiveness.



WEEK OF ABSOLUTION | DAY 22

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Absolution.

BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 103:1-5

OBJECTIVE:

Students will explain how the absolution 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."
Psalms 103:2-3

AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students if they have any moments to share when "Jesus entered in."
- Intro Day 22: Zero Balance (1-2 min)
- Read p.146 - p.150 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Why did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him three times?
 - Why do we need to go back and examine our sins?
 - Why is it important to move forward with a "zero balance" on our sin lists?
 - Who paid the bill?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 4 Small Group Video](#)
 - Mid-Week Service Project.
 - 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.
- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.151.
- Pray that God will show you how to examine your past sins to receive a "paid in full" payoff after confession.



WEEK OF ABSOLUTION | DAY 23

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Absolution.

BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 103:1-5

OBJECTIVE:

Students will explain how the absolution 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."
Psalms 103:2-3

AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share what they wrote down as they read over the hymn.
- Intro Day 23: Phile-O-Fish (1-2 min)
- Read p.152 - p.156 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What is the difference between Agape and Phileo love?
 - What was Jesus reminding Peter of in regards to His forgiveness?
 - How far has Jesus removed our sins from us?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 4 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: David's Proclamation.
 - Option: Have students read Psalm 103. According to David, have them make a list of all the actions that God takes to love and forgive us.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Complete the challenge on p.157.
- Thank God for your family, friends, and neighbors; ask for His help to forgive wrongs quickly and thoroughly.



WEEK OF ABSOLUTION | DAY 24

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The third of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Absolution.

BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 103:1-5

OBJECTIVE:

Students will explain how the absolution 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."
Psalms 103:2-3

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: grades, extra credit opportunity, etc.
- Intro Day 24: Kai Petro (1-2 min)
- Read p.158 - p.161 (5-10 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What does "kai" mean in Greek? How is it used to single out Peter in Mark 16:7?
 - How should Jesus' treatment of Peter inspire us?
 - Why did Jesus fight the "ultimate fight" for us?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - [FC Week 4 Small Group Video](#)
 - Fun Friday:
 - What are your strengths, and how can God use them to increase forgiveness in our lives, in our churches, and our world? - have students share their strengths (what they are good at) or possibly complete an online strengths survey. Then ask students to discuss how God can use their talents, skills, and abilities to increase people's understanding of forgiveness and improve the act of forgiveness. Discuss how Jesus used Peter's strengths, skills, and experiences to improve the world's understanding of forgiveness.
- Review challenge and Weekend HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.163.
- Read and complete Day 25: #NAILDIT (p.164 - p.169); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 26: Why Can't I Forgive Myself (p.170 - p.175); start the challenge.
- Pray that God will give you a heart for forgiving yourself and others.



WEEK OF RESTORATION | DAY 27

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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)
- Review HW and Day 25, Day 26 from the previous week (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share examples from their completed challenges
- Intro Day 27: The Kingdom Is Available (1-2 min)
- Read p.178 - p.180 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What makes "God's restoration" different or unique?
 - What is the ultimate goal of being a Christian (according to the word of Jesus)?
 - What parts of the Lord's Prayer reveal Jesus' purpose in coming to the world?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 5 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: The Lord's Prayer Deconstructed
 - Options: Read the Lords' Prayer to students (Matt. 6:9-13). Divide students into five groups and have them analyze one verse per group. Have student groups rewrite the verse in their own, every-every day words. Then have all five groups combine their verses and read the new prayer as a whole group.
- Review challenge and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete the challenge on p.181.
- Praise God for giving the best gift to us - JESUS!



WEEK OF RESTORATION | DAY 28

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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 (Option: recite the Lord's Prayer) (1-2 min)
- Review HW and challenge from the previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share their areas of restoration of an earlier challenge.
- Intro Day 28: Jesus the Restorer (1-2 min)
- Read p.182 - p.175 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How do Jesus' death and resurrection determine our value?
 - Why might Jesus have referenced stones and stonework more so than carpentry? How do these references intertwine with other areas of scripture?
 - Why does Jesus want to restore us to something even better than we were initially?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 5 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Extension of the lesson (Complete the challenge).
 - Options: Have students complete the "God Names You" challenge on p.186 - p.187. Allow students to work together if wanted or needed. Have them answer the question and share their "why" as to which name means the most. Extra: make posters for each name and hang them around the classroom or school.
- Review challenges and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete the challenge on p.186 - 187 (if not done in class).
- Ask God to continue restoring you for His glory and purposes.



WEEK OF RESTORATION | DAY 29

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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)
- Review HW and challenge from previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share their favorite, God-given name.
- Intro Day 29: Abandon Ship (1-2 min)
- Read p.188 - p.191 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - How would you describe Jesus? Does brilliant or clever enter your mind or thoughts about Jesus?
 - How was Jesus' calling of Peter "brilliant?" How was Jesus' restoration of Peter also "brilliant?"
 - How do we find our true purpose in life?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 5 Small Group Video](#)
 - Mid-Week Service Project.
 - Options: Carry out the project as planned during the previous week. Ensure all students engage in the service project through the assignment of "jobs" or working under team leaders (other teachers or helpers). Take pictures and tag the RLC team by using #ForgivingChallenge on social media.
- Review challenges and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete the challenge on p.192 - 193.
- Pray that God will help you live out your God-given purpose in life.



WEEK OF RESTORATION | DAY 30

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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)
- Review HW and challenge from previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share some of the "chapters" in their life stories.
- Intro Day 30: Forgiveness Moves Forward (1-2 min)
- Read p.194 - p.198 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Who receives Jesus' offer of absolution?
 - How would you describe the second part of forgiveness (the one that is hard for us to comprehend and receive)?
 - How do we know Jesus wasn't angry with Peter? With us?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 5 Small Group Video](#)
 - Mid-Week Service Project (Day 2 if needed).
 - 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 #ForgivingChallenge 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!)
- Complete the challenge on p.199.
- Pray and thank God for moving us forward in forgiveness.



WEEK OF RESTORATION | DAY 31

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



THEME:

The fourth of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: Restoration.

BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 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: each student separately to earn a reward or as a group
 - Reward Ideas: grades, extra credit opportunity, etc.
- Introduce Day 31: More Than These (1-2 min)
- Read p.200 - p.204 (5-10 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Why did Jesus use Peter's full name at the charcoal fire?
 - Which "these" do you think Jesus is referencing? Why?
 - Why did Jesus restore Peter specifically in front of the other disciples?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
- [FC Week 5 Small Group Video](#)
 - Fun Friday:
 - Restoration Circle: have students form a circle around the room with their chairs. Have each student think about one thing in their life that gets in the way of following Jesus. After each student shares their one thing, have other students stand up and share options for overcoming and following Jesus completely.
- Review challenge and Weekend HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Complete the challenge on p.205.
- Read and complete Day 32: The Comforting Commander (p.206 - p.211); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 33: Fully Restored (p.212 - p.217); start the challenge.
- Pray that God will give you confidence as a fully restored believer.



WEEK OF SANCTIFICATION | DAY 34

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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 previous week (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share examples from their completed challenges
- Introduce Day 34: Freedom Mountain (1-2 min)
- Read p.220 - p.224 (10-15 min)
 - Discussions Questions:
 - How does a "holy life" relate to freedom?
 - Why do so many people leave the forgiveness process early before sanctification?
 - Why can you be sure of your ability to climb Freedom Mountain?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review Bible Verses and recite Memory Verse (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 6 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Trust God When He Says "Follow Me" (obstacle course)
 - Option: Set up an obstacle course and have a blindfolded student traverse the course on their own to find. Have the student do the course again but provide verbal directions to assist the student through obstacles. Discuss how God is with us and provides directions to help us achieve freedom.
- Review challenges and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.225.
- Praise God for providing the Holy Spirit to be our guide.



WEEK OF SANCTIFICATION | DAY 35

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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 previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students which phase of Freedom Mountain is the toughest for them.
- Introduce Day 35: The Tattoo Preacher Guy (1-2 min)
- Read p.226 - p.230 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What does Peter recommend to us in 1 Peter 2:11?
 - What does he suggest to us in regards to the type of life we live?
 - What is the most significant mark you can leave in this world?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 6 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Peter's Sage Advice for Christian Living.
 - Options: Have students or student groups read 1 Peter 2:11-21. Then have them make a list of "Do's" and "Do Not's" according to Peter's directions. Have them share out and discuss why these instructions are essential.
- Review challenges and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete the challenge on p.231.
- Confess to God the times when you may not have listened to His call; ask for His forgiveness and direction in making your God-given mark on the world.



WEEK OF SANCTIFICATION | DAY 36

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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 previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share their "marks" from the last challenge.
- Intro Day 36: Pitmaster Jesus (1-2 min)
- Read p.232 - p.236 (10-15 min)
 - Discussions Questions:
 - Why do you think the number of fish, 153, was included in John's Gospel?
 - Does God "need" our gifts and talents to do His work? Does He want us to bring them to Him so he can use them?
 - How is Jesus a "pitmaster?" To what length will He go to get us involved in His story?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 6 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Peter's Other Meal with Jesus.
 - 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 and forgive others like Jesus.
- Review challenges and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse.
- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.237.
- Pray that you will let God's Light shine through your talents.



WEEK OF SANCTIFICATION | DAY 37

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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 previous day (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share their talents and giftings.
- Intro Day 37: Scars to Stars (1-2 min)
- Read p.238 - p.242 (10-15 min)
 - Discussion Questions:
 - What was the "rest of the story" for Peter? Did he become the leader Jesus called him to be? How do we know?
 - What happened to Peter when the Holy Spirit came upon him on the Day of Pentecost? How many people did he save in one day, one sermon, one moment? How did Jesus use his ultimate weakness for ultimate greatness?
 - How can Jesus use your story for His Kingdom's purpose?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - Review and recite the memory verse. (choral recitation)
 - [FC Week 6 Small Group Video](#)
 - A Higher Climb: Joshua, Fearless Leader with God's Presence
 - Options: Read Deuteronomy 34 to students to set the stage for Joshua's step into leadership. Have students or student groups read Joshua 1:1-9. Have students or student groups make a list of things God said for Joshua to do. Discuss how God used a tricky situation (Moses dying) to bring forth a solid and courageous leader like Joshua. How did God use Joshua's story?
- Review challenges and HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Review and recite the memory verse. (Test tomorrow!)
- Complete Bible Reading and challenge on p.243.
- Thank God for the story He is developing in you and how He will use it for His Kingdom's purpose!



WEEK OF SANCTIFICATION | DAY 38

FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



THEME:

The last of 5 Phases of Forgiveness Leading to Freedom: 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: each student separately to earn a reward or as a group to earn a reward
 - Reward Ideas: grades, extra credit opportunity, etc.
- Introduce Day 38: Wax On, Wax Off (1-2 min)
- Read p.244 - p.248 (5-10 min)
 - Discussions Questions:
 - What happens when we take our eyes off Jesus?
 - What was Jesus reminding Peter about with his final statements in John 21? What should those statements remind us about as well?
 - What impact will God's Grace have upon our actions and our future?
- Activities (Optional): (25-30 min)
 - [FC Week 6 Small Group Video](#)
 - Fun Friday:
 - Have students form a quick synopsis of what they believe their future holds (schooling, careers, spouses, children, their calling or purpose in life). Next, have them write down 3 SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound) goals that would put them on track with their God-given purpose in life. Finally, have students share their future plans and the goals they create. Encourage them to listen for God's voice as they dream and plan.
- Review Weekend HW assignments (1-2 min)
- Closing Prayer (1-2 min)

HOMEWORK:

- Complete the challenge on p.249.
- Read and complete Day 39: Peter's New Chapters (p.250 - p.255); start the challenge.
- Read and complete Day 40: Be Free (p.256 - p.261); start the challenge.
- Pray that you will live in the true freedom Jesus has granted you.



CELEBRATION DAY!

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



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 previous week. (4-5 min)
 - Ask students to share examples from their completed challenges.
- Intro "The Final Challenge" Day (1-2 min)
- Read p.262 - p.265 (5-10 min)
 - Discussion Question:
 - How can we become forgiving people?
- Celebration Options:
 - Celebrate on Sunday if doing FC with an 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 other school-based projects.
 - Conduct a student-led food drive, clothing drive, or another initiative to give back to the local community.
 - Other school-based celebrations of FC accomplishments.
- Closing Prayer. (1-2 min)

NOTES:



FORGIVING
CHALLENGE



A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for writing or drawing.

