



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12
Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts –
Revelation
Unit 5, Lesson 25

Letters About Forgiving Others

Lesson Aim: To know God calls us to forgive
others as He has forgiven us.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite number?

GAME: Lots of Forgiveness

THE WORSHIP THE SPIRIT WHO GUIDES US

Read Worship Scripture: Matthew 6:14-15

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform the Mail Call script or read storybook.

THE WORD LETTERS ABOUT FORGIVING OTHERS

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God led Paul and John to write about God's forgiveness of our sin.

Today, we have letters about forgiving others. We are to forgive, just as God has forgiven us. Jesus says if we do not forgive others, God the Father will not forgive us. Let's see what Paul says in letters he wrote to churches in Corinth and Colosse. Point to ancient Corinth and Colosse. This mailbag reminds us that in Bible times believers traveled long distances to share letters from Paul. Reveal

Bible Story Scripture Reference: Colossians 3:12-14; 1 Corinthians 13:5; Titus 3:4-5. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Colossians 3:13. Pray. Read.

THE WAY FORGIVE OTHERS

What does it mean to hold a grudge against someone? Paul describes it as keeping a record of wrongs. Fold paper into an airplane. This paper airplane stands for your life and this pebble is a grudge. When you do not forgive someone, it is as if you are carrying a heavy rock with you wherever you go. Tape pebble onto airplane. Fly it. When we do not forgive someone, who does it hurt? (Ourselves.) The grudge we hold weighs us down and keeps us from being all God wants us to be. With what does Paul tell us to clothe ourselves as God's people? (Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.) How might these things help us to forgive others?

Did Jesus die on the cross because we all told Him how sorry we were for our sins? (No.) Did He die on the cross because we showed Him we would never sin again? (No.) Jesus died for us because He is kind and loving. We did not do anything to earn His forgiveness, but He gave His life so we could be forgiven.

Have you ever forgiven someone who did not say they were sorry? Have you ever forgiven someone who might hurt you again? That kind of forgiveness comes from God's kindness. God is loving and kind to us even when we do not deserve it; that is called mercy. That is the mercy Paul describes in his letter to Titus.

Has someone ever done or said something that was hard to forgive? Let's take seven seconds of silence. Ask God to remind you of anyone you have not yet forgiven. Pause for silent prayer. Now, let's ask God to fill us with His Spirit so we can forgive each person that has wronged us, even if they never say they are sorry. Pray.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

More than 1000 years before Paul wrote to Corinth and Colosse about forgiving others, Jacob's son Joseph forgave his brothers for trying to harm him and selling him into slavery. Reveal Genesis 50:19-21. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

It is hard to forgive when someone has hurt us on purpose. It is even harder to then treat that person with kindness. That's what Joseph did. Not only did he forgive his brothers, he reassured them and spoke to them with kindness. Have you ever treated someone with kindness, even though they had hurt you on purpose?

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- **TREASURE TREAT:** New Testament Postcard about forgiveness, stamp or sticker of cross
- **W³ BETWEEN THE LINES** Journal Entry #25
- **OFFERING OF ART:** Your favorite thing about today and something special about the letters from the New Testament you just learned
- **PRAYER REQUESTS**
- **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG**

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Hearts of Forgiveness

GAMES: Goodbye Grumpy Grudge, New Testament Line

CRAFT: Care Package—Delivering God's Love

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Ask, Seek, Knock!; Race to Repeat

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW