



Represent
Wk 4/4: Be Forgiving
January 30 & 31, 2021

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

- (1) For students to realize that how they treat their friends matters
- (2) For students to grow in how well they represent Jesus to others

SCRIPTURE

Luke 7:36-48

THINK ABOUT THIS

Middle and high school students give a great amount of power and weight to their friends. **That means your students hold a great amount of power and influence in their friends' lives.** How well are your students representing Jesus to their friends? You may have students all over the board on that and they may have never thought about that before. Preaching isn't the only way to share the Gospel; how your students treat their friends will most likely leave a bigger impact than the words they say. **The main goal for this series is for you to engage your students in conversations that help them reflect and grow in how they are treating their friends and representing Jesus through their character.**

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.



CONVERSATION GUIDE

MAIN POINT

Let's represent Jesus well by being known for great love and great forgiveness.

GET THEM TALKING

How does it feel when someone forgives you?
How do you feel about Jesus forgiving your sins?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

READ LUKE 9:36-48 and answer the following questions:

1. What did the woman do when she found Jesus and how did these unusual actions show great love?
2. What are ways you can show great love to your friends?
3. Who showed Jesus more love – Simon or the woman? Why?
4. Why is it sometimes easier to forget to show those we are around all the time great love and forgiveness?
5. How did Jesus' forgiveness impact the woman?
6. How has Jesus' forgiveness impacted you?
7. Who are people, other than your friends, you can show great love and forgiveness to?

NEXT STEP

Who is someone in your life that could use some great love?
Share with the group one thing you could do this week to show them great love.

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer. As you pray, give students time to reflect if there is anyone in their lives they need to forgive or they need to ask for forgiveness from.

SCRIPTURE

MS students are concrete thinkers, so opening your Bible to read the Scripture with them is a preferred visual cue.

LUKE 7:36-48 (NLT)

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat.

³⁷ When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. ³⁸ Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them.

³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" ⁴⁰ Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied.

⁴¹ Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. ⁴² But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. ⁴⁴ Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume.

⁴⁷ "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."