



LIVE IT OUT | WEEK 2 | JULY 13, 2025

Elementary Lesson

Forgive One Another

Monthly Virtue: Live it out: discover how to love like Jesus.

Bible Story: Forgive One Another (Jesus Forgives Peter) • *Colossians 3:13*

Key Question: What makes it hard to forgive?

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others, and love life.

Memory Verse: Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had. *Romans 15:5 (NirV)*

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Living and loving like Jesus sounds great in theory but may be a little hard in practice. However, with the help of God's Spirit, we don't have to do it alone. When we follow Jesus, God's Spirit transforms us, shaping us every day into who God has called us to be and how God is calling us to live. Live It Out is not JUST a theme, but a call to action. It encourages kids to actively live out their faith through their words and interactions with others. And the more we become like Jesus, the more we can make a true difference in this world and in the lives of those around us.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM →
 - You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS →
 - A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors
Open
9:15/11:00

Large Group
Starts
9:35/11:20

Small Group
Starts
10:05/11:50

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: BAPTISM) *(Said on the fourth weekend of the month only)* “Today are baptisms at Hope. Baptism is a way of telling the world that you love God and have made the decision to follow Him with your life. It’s a big deal! Is there anyone here who is getting baptized today? *(Pause and if someone is, go ahead and give them a high five and get the kids to clap).* Awesome!”

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

FOUR CORNERS

(No Supplies)

It’s our first day back in KidCity, and for some of you, maybe the first time in this room! Welcome! We are going to have so much fun today! But first, let’s go over our monthly virtue. All summer long we are reminding ourselves of the importance of LIVING IT OUT.

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) **Live it out: discover how to love like Jesus.**

For the next couple of months, we’re headed to camp Live It Out. We talk a whole lot about living for Jesus, but we may wonder how we can actually do that. At camp Live It Out, we’ll all get a chance to discover what it means for us to live like Jesus and love the people around us. But first, let’s check out our monthly verse!

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) **Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had. Romans 15:5 (NirV)**

Take a minute to explain that ‘Romans’ is a book in the New Testament, and that the first number means ‘chapter’ and the second one means ‘verse’. ‘NirV’ is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn’t originally written in English! There are different translations.

You’ll have more time to practice this month’s verse, but for now let’s play a game!

(SLIDE: GAME SLIDE with MUSIC)

HOW TO PLAY

- Assign a number, 1-4, to each corner of the room.
- Explain that you will count to 10 and kids will need to get to one of the corners. At the end of 10 you will call out a number and either:
 - Everyone in that corner is out OR
 - Everyone *not* in that corner is out.
- Play as time allows, but no longer than 5 minutes.

“That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let’s worship God!”

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: FULLY ALIVE [Summer Theme Song], GOD IS ON THE MOVE)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

Before we jump into our Bible story today, I want you guys to picture how your room looks right now. Take a minute to think about it....ok. By show of hands, how many of you would say that your room is just a little bit messy right now? Ok, how many of you would say that your room is A LOT bit messy right now? *(Pause)* That’s what I thought!

When your room is super messy and it’s time to really buckle down and clean it, it takes REAL work to get it back to how it is supposed to be. I’m talking, your clothes aren’t just stuffed back in the drawer and your stuffed animals aren’t just shoved into the closet or under the bed. I’m talking fresh sheets on the bed, bed made, stuffed animals arranged in a beautiful way, clothes folded neatly and put away, and to top it off you dust everything. Even though the end result is immaculate, I’m sure the process to get there was extremely difficult. It’s hard to try to restore things.

Today we are going to be talking all about forgiveness. Forgiveness is not just forgetting everything and starting completely over. It’s all about restoration, which takes work! Let’s see what the Bible will teach us about the importance of forgiveness.

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 5 MIN)

Let me read that verse from Paul again...”

Open the Bible to Colossians 3:13 (NIRV) and read.

“Put up with one another. Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you.”

“This story is so cool because we just watched what it looked like when the Lord forgives...what it



looks like to not hold something against someone. And we are now called to live like Jesus in the way we forgive one another. The example has been set! Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sins so that we could be forgiven . . . and so that we could have a relationship with God that will last forever! So, in response, we can choose to forgive others when they've wronged us."

"It can be really easy to keep track of all the things others do wrong to us. The truth is, things happen to us all the time that hurt us and upset us. Some of those things can be silly...like when someone says they don't like the color of our shoes. Okay, that hurts, but do we want to hold something like that against someone forever and refuse to forgive them? Or do we want to live like Jesus and forgive one another?"

"But some things can be really serious. We saw that with Jesus and Peter. And it can take some time to work through some of the pain that was caused. But if a person is a good friend, it is worth forgiving one another and working through it."

"Now, there may come a time when you have a friend that hurts you SO bad...that you just can't be friends with them anymore. And that is okay. You might need wisdom from a trusted godly adult to help you with this. But regardless of what happens, you can still forgive them, because that will help YOU live with peace and freedom even if you don't ever hang out with that person again."

"Do you know one of the coolest things about forgiving others? When we are willing to forgive, it is a reminder of what God has done for us. That is what Paul said, right? We forgive, BECAUSE we are... *(wait for responses)* FORGIVEN! Yes!"

We have sinned and done so many things that God has asked us not to. But through Jesus, God has forgiven us. He has erased our debt. And when we forgive others, we are acting just like God does. So, when we are tempted to hold on to our hurt or to make others pay for what they have done, consider the story of Jesus and Peter, and how you can be more like Jesus in forgiving someone for the wrong they have done. This is how we can live like Jesus!"
Another way to say it is how our Basic Truth for this week says it...

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others, and love life.

As we head to Small Groups, we want you to consider this question:

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) What makes it hard to forgive?

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don't try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

"Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1..."

"I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk



about this in small group time, but for now let's pray."

God, I pray that we remember how important it is to forgive others because you first forgave us. We pray that they become young men and women who love you and love others and LIVE LIKE YOU. Amen.

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

Monthly Virtue: Live it out: discover how to love like Jesus.

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Key Question: What makes it hard to forgive?

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TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.

Key Question: What makes it hard to forgive?

(Answers will vary, people aren't kind to us, people don't apologize when they wrong us, when we have a bad attitude, etc.)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: *Colossians 3:13*

Say: Paul wrote a letter to the people in Colossae to remind them that Jesus is the boss of everything—He made it all and holds it all together. Paul told them to stick with Jesus and not be tricked by anyone trying to teach something different.

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(Forgiveness Path activity page (1 per kid 2-5), Campfire activity page (1 per kid K-1) and (3-4 per SG K-5) Dry-erase Markers, sheet protectors (3-4 per SG K-5), paper towel or wipe (3-4 per SG K-5), Bible, coloring and writing supplies)

What You Do:

- **K-5th Grade:**
 - Invite the kids to join you in a seated circle.
 - Ask: “How do you feel when you’ve done something that you know you shouldn’t do—like if you were to yell at someone, push someone, lie to a friend or an adult, or take something that didn’t belong to you?”
 - Pause to give the kids space to respond about how they would feel. *(Kids may feel sad, or afraid they won’t be liked anymore, etc.)*
 - **[Make It Personal]** *Share with the kids how you feel when you’ve done something that hurts someone else’s feelings too.*
 - Put kids in groups of 2 or 3 and give every group a “Campfire” Activity Page in a protective sleeve and a 2 dry-erase marker.
 - Direct the kids to scribble over their page to show how they described their feelings.

- o There is no “right” or “wrong” way for the kids to draw.
- Invite any kids who would like to share their drawings.
- Encourage the kids to share what they remember from today’s Bible Story.
- Respond by saying, “_____ (name of kid) remembers that Jesus forgave Peter and asked Peter if he loved Him.”
 - o *NOTE: Rephrasing validates each kid’s voice and shows them that their words matter.*
- Ask: “How do you think Peter felt after he denied his close friend, whom he loved, three times?”
 - o *(Pause to accept responses. Kids might say sad, bad, terrible, etc.)*
- Ask: “Did Jesus stay angry at Peter? (Answer: No!)
- Ask: “What did Jesus do?” (Answer: Jesus forgave Peter.)
- Give each group a paper towel and direct the kids to erase their drawings on their sheet protector.
- **K-1st Grade:**
 - Give each kid their own copy of the “Campfire” Activity Page
 - Set the coloring supplies in the middle of the circle.
 - Invite the kids to draw a picture of themselves and Jesus around the campfire image.

What You Say: “After all that Peter had done, Jesus still loved him and forgave him! Jesus forgave Peter, and Jesus forgives YOU too, the moment you ask! I love looking at your drawings of yourself and Jesus around the campfire—I hope this reminds you just how much Jesus loves you! Jesus does MORE than just forgive you. He wants you to keep being His friend! He loves you more than you could ever imagine!”

“So, every day, think about how much Jesus loves you and forgives you all the time. It’s because of Jesus’ love for us that we can ‘Live It Out’ and **forgive one another.**”

- **2nd-5th Grade:**
 - Give each kid a “Forgiveness Path” Activity Page and a pen (or pencil).
 - Instruct the kids to write their names on the page.
 - Set out the coloring supplies for the groups to share.
 - Explain to the kids that they will complete a forgiveness adventure!
 - Refer to your own “Forgiveness Path” Activity Page as you ask the following questions and prompt them to do the following.
 - o *“Think about a time someone hurt you. Tell God about it. Draw a picture in that first box to tell God about it.” (Give the kids a few minutes to draw.)*
 - o *“How did it make you feel?” (Lead the kids to circle the feelings that apply to them in prompt 2.)*
 - o *“Do something that helps you feel calm.” (Point out the “Do something that helps you feel calm” section, read it to the kids, and give the kids a few moments to draw their response.)*
 - o *“What helps you remember that Jesus forgives you?” (Direct the kids to the fourth circle. Read the section. Point out the QR code for the Orange Kids Music song: “Lift My Voice” and ask the kids to have a parent help them scan it at home. Also, look up the 1 John 1:9 in the Bible and help kids fill in the blank.)*
 - o *“Remember this . . .” (Point out the “Remember this . . .” section and read it to the group.)*
 - Direct the kids to the last box.

- Encourage the kids to write or draw how it makes them feel to know that Jesus forgives them no matter what!
- If the kids need more time, give the kids more time to fill out their “Forgiveness Path” Activity Pages.
- Once they’re finished, encourage the kids to share what they wrote and drew with the kid(s) in their group.
- Explain to the kids that they can use the prompts on this sheet at home to help them navigate forgiveness. God can handle all their big feelings and wants to help them

forgive one another!

What You Say:

“Forgiveness isn’t always easy, and sometimes we’re not sure what to do. But guess what? We don’t have to figure it out alone. God sends the Holy Spirit to live with us and guide us when we choose to follow Jesus! We can ask God to help us forgive and focus on Jesus’ love for us. “I want to encourage you to use this Activity Page throughout the week! When forgiving someone feels tough, remember that God is with you and wants to hear all about it. Remember Jesus forgave us first, so we can work to forgive others. Trust God to help you navigate those feelings and help you **forgive one another!**”

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Memory Verse Poster, Verse Motions page and Bibles)

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Give each group a Bible.
- Direct them to look up this month’s Memory Verse, Romans 15:5
- Recite the verse together several times.
- Teach the kids Memory Verse motions from the “Verse Motions” Activity Page
- Repeat the verse motions with the kids several times.
- For a challenge, invite the group to perform the verse motions without your direction!

What You Say:

“Way to go, friends! You all memorized our verse this month SO fast. Basically, the verse is saying this: God loves to help and encourage us! And God wants us to do the same for others. God wants us to treat others with kindness and patience, just like Jesus did.

“So, if someone messes up or hurts your feelings, you can choose to forgive them instead of staying upset. It doesn’t mean that you let someone keep hurting you (you should talk to a grown-up if that happens!). But forgiveness is a choice we can make that changes everything! It frees us from feeling bitter and thinking about it all the time. We show others what Jesus is like when we **forgive one another!**”

PRAYER

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Explain to the kids that you will give them a few moments to think of someone they need to forgive.

- Give the kids a few moments to pray to God and ask for help to forgive.
- Share with kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere!

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, for all of us. Thank You for loving us and forgiving us—no matter the mistake! Please help us all ‘Live it Out’ and **forgive one another** just like You forgive us. Help us boldly go out this week and share Your love and kindness with the world around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show off their Activity Page. Share with the adults that kids can use this page to remind them who Jesus is, help them remember to forgive and love like Jesus!