



# GROUP ACTIVITY

## The Unforgiving Servant

**BIG IDEA:** Jesus forgives us, so we should forgive others.

**BIBLE BASIS:** Matthew 18:21-35

**KEY VERSE:** “Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you.” Colossians 3:13b (NIRV)

### Forgiveness Fold

**Supplies:** Square pieces of paper (1 per child) and markers or crayons (1 per child)

**Directions:** Give each child a piece of paper and a marker. Ask the kids if there is someone they need to forgive. Have them write that person’s name or draw a picture of them on their piece of paper. Ask anyone if they would like to share who they wrote down and why. When everyone has shared, have them fold up their paper.

**Say:** Today we heard a parable where Jesus explained how God has forgiven us for our sins, so we should forgive other people when they sin against us. Forgiving people who sin against us can be really hard, but the good news is that when we forgive people, we set down our anger and hurt and make room for peace, joy, and love to fill our lives. We no longer hold any anger towards that individual.

**Directions:** When we forgive someone, we forget what they have done. Kinda like taking this piece of paper and ripping it up. Now ask the kids if they are ready to forgive the person they wrote down on their paper. Go around the circle and have the kids say, “I forgive (insert person’s name).” As they forgive the person, they can rip up their piece of paper. Ask them the questions below:

**Question:** When you think about how God forgives you, what do you want to say to Him?

**Question:** When you think about how God forgives you, why is it hard for you to forgive others?

When finished, say a prayer for the kids and ask God to help them continue to forgive those who wrong them.