

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Ephesians 4:31-32

How would you feel if your sister, brother, or friend called you a mean name? (Sad, mad, hurt, etc.). What would you do? Maybe you would call that person a mean name back! When somebody hurts us, we often want to hurt them back. However, God's Word shows us the right way to respond. God's Word tells us that we should not hurt others, be angry with them, or say mean things to them, even when they make us feel sad or mad! Instead, His Word says that we should be kind and forgive people when they hurt us, because God forgives us even though we do lots of things that hurt Him!



CREATIVE CONNECTION

It can be hard to forgive someone, but it can be even harder to treat them with kindness after they have hurt you. Read or act out the following situations. How can you respond with kindness and forgiveness?

Someone won't give you back your toy after you shared it with them. What do you do?

A friend is angry and hits you. What do you do?

Your mom said she would take you to get ice cream but forgot. What do you do?

Remember: Following Jesus Means Forgiving Others



TABLE TIDBITS

Ask your child to think about a person who did something that hurt them or made them angry. Remind your child that God wants them to forgive that person - by choosing not to stay angry with them for the wrong thing that the person did to them. To help your child forgive, remind them of a specific time they did wrong and you forgave them. Ask them what it felt like to be forgiven. God still shows love and kindness to us, even when we do wrong things, so we need to do the same for others!



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "God wants you to forgive others" As you tuck them into bed, sing, "Forgive One Another" (<https://tinyurl.com/for-give>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, Thank You for always being kind to me. Help me to be kind even when someone hurts me. Thank You for the people in my life who are kind to me, even when I make bad choices! In Jesus' name, Amen.*

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MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Matthew 6:7-9, 12, 14

When we talk with God, He wants us to tell Him when we have done something wrong and ask Him to forgive us. When God forgives us, He isn't saying that what we did was okay or right, He is choosing not to be angry with us for what we did and to give us another chance to make a better choice. We need to do the same for others; God's Word tells us that if we forgive others when they hurt us, God will forgive us too. We can choose not to be angry anymore with somebody for the wrong thing they did, just like God chooses not to be angry with us. We can choose to give others another chance!

Remember: Following Jesus Means Forgiving Others.



CREATIVE CONNECTION

To forgive is to let go of the anger in my heart I have with someone for the wrong thing he/she did. Jesus wants us to forgive everyone the way He forgives us. He forgives us because He loves us. But sometimes forgiving is very hard. Jesus wants to help us forgive others. Do you know how we can ask Jesus for help We can pray! We can pray and ask Him for help. Let's sing a song to remind us that we can pray to God anytime, any day, and He can help us forgive others! Sing "I Will Pray": <https://tinyurl.com/yancypray>



TABLE TIDBITS

raw a sa a e or angr a e. al about how we eel when someone hurts us. al about how o wants us to orgive others ust li e he orgives us. e t raw ut out an glue a heart over the sa or angr a e ou ha rawn. al about how how our heart eels when we orgives others o wash our hearts lean. Finall raw an ut out a ha a e an glue it over the heart to remin our hil that when we orgive others o ta es awa the u in our heart an gives us a lean ha hear



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "God wants you to forgive others" As you tuck them into bed, sing, "Forgive One Another" (<https://tinyurl.com/for-give>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, Thank You for hearing me when I talk to You. Please help me to forgive others, just like You forgive me. Thank You for loving me no matter what! In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Materials Needed:
Bible or Bible App, Sheet

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Ephesians 3:18, Psalm 100:5
Can you show me how big Jesus' love is? Encourage children to stretch their arms wide. That's pretty big but the love of Jesus is even bigger than that! Our verses today tell us how big Jesus' love is! Say Ephesians 3:18 and Psalm 100:5 together while doing actions: "How wide and long" (*Stretch arms outward*) "and high" (*Reach hands high to sky*) "and deep" (*Reach hands low to ground*) "is the love of Christ" (*Hug arms over chest*) "His love endures forever" (*Reach hands again and walk in a circle*).



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Say, "Jesus loves all children. That means He loves you! Let's see how big Jesus' love is." Spread a sheet on the floor in the center of a room. Have your child stand on one side of the sheet and you stand on the other. Pick up the sheet by the edges. Pull on the sheet until it is tight. Say, "See how wide and long the sheet is? Jesus' love for you is even wider and longer!" Take one giant step into the square. Hold the sheet as high as you can reach. Say, "See how high the sheet is? Jesus' love for you is even higher!" Now lower the sheet to the ground. Say, "See how low the sheet is? Jesus' love for you is even deeper! Jesus loves us so much He forgives us when we ask!" **Remember: Following Jesus means Forgiving others**



TABLE TIDBITS

Play this "Jesus loves you this much" game. Ask your child, "Do you know how much Jesus loves you?" Then come up with words ending in "er" to explain the magnitude of Jesus' love. For example, "Jesus loves you bigger than an elephant," or "Jesus loves you taller than our house!" Challenge your child to come with some on their own too!



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "God wants you to forgive others." As you tuck them into bed, sing, "Forgive One Another" (<https://tinyurl.com/for-give>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, Thank You for loving me so much! Please help me to always remember how much You love me. Thank You that Your love never stops, even when I do things that are wrong. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Materials Needed:
Bible or Bible App

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Matthew 5:1-2, 7
When we forgive we are often giving someone mercy. Showing mercy means not punishing someone or paying them back for what the wrong thing they did. God wants us to show mercy, even if we feel the person who hurt us doesn't deserve it, because He did this for us! Jesus took the punishment for the bad things that we do when He died on the cross! When we forgive, we are happy because we remember how good it feels that God forgives us! **Remember: Following Jesus Means Forgiving Others.**



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Sit down with your family on a small hill outdoors or on sturdy boxes. Pretend you are sitting on a mountainside, as Jesus did, teaching about showing mercy. Say: "Forgive everyone." Show your family the sign language motions: (For visual demonstrations, see www.signing-savvy.com).

- **"Forgive"** In a downward, sweeping motion, the left-hand brushes across the palm of the right hand.
- **"Everyone"** (Each+one) Right-fist, moves down to the left-fist. Then raise your right index finger.

Teach them that to show mercy means to forgive. Blessed are those who show mercy!



TABLE TIDBITS

While at the dinner table teach your child this simple song to the tune of "Skip to my Lou".

Verse 1

Do, do, do everything; (*wave arms above head*)
Do, do, do everything; (*wave arms above head*)
Do, do, do everything; (*wave arms above head*)
Do everything for God. (*point upward*)

Verse 2

For-give everyone. (*extend arms out, then hug self*)
For-give everyone. (*extend arms out, then hug self*)
For-give everyone. (*extend arms out, then hug self*)
Forgive everyone for God. (*point upward*)



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "God wants you to forgive others." As you tuck them into bed, sing, "Forgive One Another" (<https://tinyurl.com/for-give>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, Thank You for showing mercy! Please help me to show mercy even when it's hard. Thank You for forgiving me! In Jesus' name, Amen.*