



## **E-Kids: At home with your family 30th August 2020**

### **Matthew 18: 15 – 35**

#### **The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart." Matthew 18:15 - 35

#### **Intro**

Today Rich will be preaching on the second part of Matthew 18, looking at Matthew 18: 15 – 35. In the first half of the chapter we saw that we must be like children with nothing to enter Heaven. Jesus also taught us that God cares deeply for each one of his children and has gone to great lengths to rescue each one of us, when Jesus died on the cross for our sins. In this section Jesus explains that there is no limit to God's (or our) forgiveness.

#### **Our passage**

Matthew 18:21 – 22: Peter asks Jesus, 'How many times must I forgive a fellow Christian? As many as seven times?!' Jesus answers him, 'not seven times, but seventy times seven.' This isn't about multiplication or maths! This exaggeration from Jesus shows there is no limit to the number of times we should forgive our brothers and sisters in Christ.

*This week we will see:*

## **Jesus has already forgiven us beyond limits** 🙌

By dying on the cross to take our sins

### **Warm up activity**

- Use the templates for this activity are found on **Page 5**.
- Write in each balloon (**Page 6**) something that we find painful or hurtful that others do to us and we need to forgive them for. Colour, cut and stick the balloons onto a plain page with space in the middle for a person.
- Colour and cut or draw your own person in the middle of the balloons – this is you!
- Don't forget to draw string from the balloons to the person (see example)
- Think about how we hurt each other and how we need to forgive the other person every time.

You can take this one step further and cut out the large balloon outlines (**Page 7**), write what you would like to forgive, stick them to an inflated balloon and release the end...

...watch the balloon fly away as we learn to let go of the hurtful action and forgive the other person.

### **Retelling the passage**

Jesus tells the disciples this story to explain why we should forgive others (Matthew 18: 23 – 35):

'There once was a servant who owed the King £5,000,000. When the King asked for this money back, the servant begged the King to give him time to repay the money. The King had pity and forgave the servant, removing the full debt! Afterwards the same servant met a friend of his who owed him £500. When the friend asked for time to repay the smaller amount of money, the first servant got cross and angry, demanding that he be repaid immediately. When the King was told of this, he was cross with the first servant as he had been forgiven for a far larger amount of money, so he should have forgiven his friend for the small amount of money.'

We should forgive others (small amount) because God has already forgiven us for our sins (large amount). Did you notice how different the amounts of money were? We have been forgiven such a HUGE amount for our sin, that there should be no limit to the number of times we forgive others. (More than 7 x 70!)

### **Prayer**

- Thank you God for your unlimited forgiveness of us to take away our sin.
- Sorry that we keep forgetting that we have been forgiven first and don't forgive others that upset us.
- Please help us to forgive others quickly and without hesitation.

**Colouring sheet for younger ones**



Forgiving Makes Us Happy

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4eTvGSXZ4kDcVBvWHpDUjVnY0U/view>

**Activity for older ones**

# Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 18:21-22

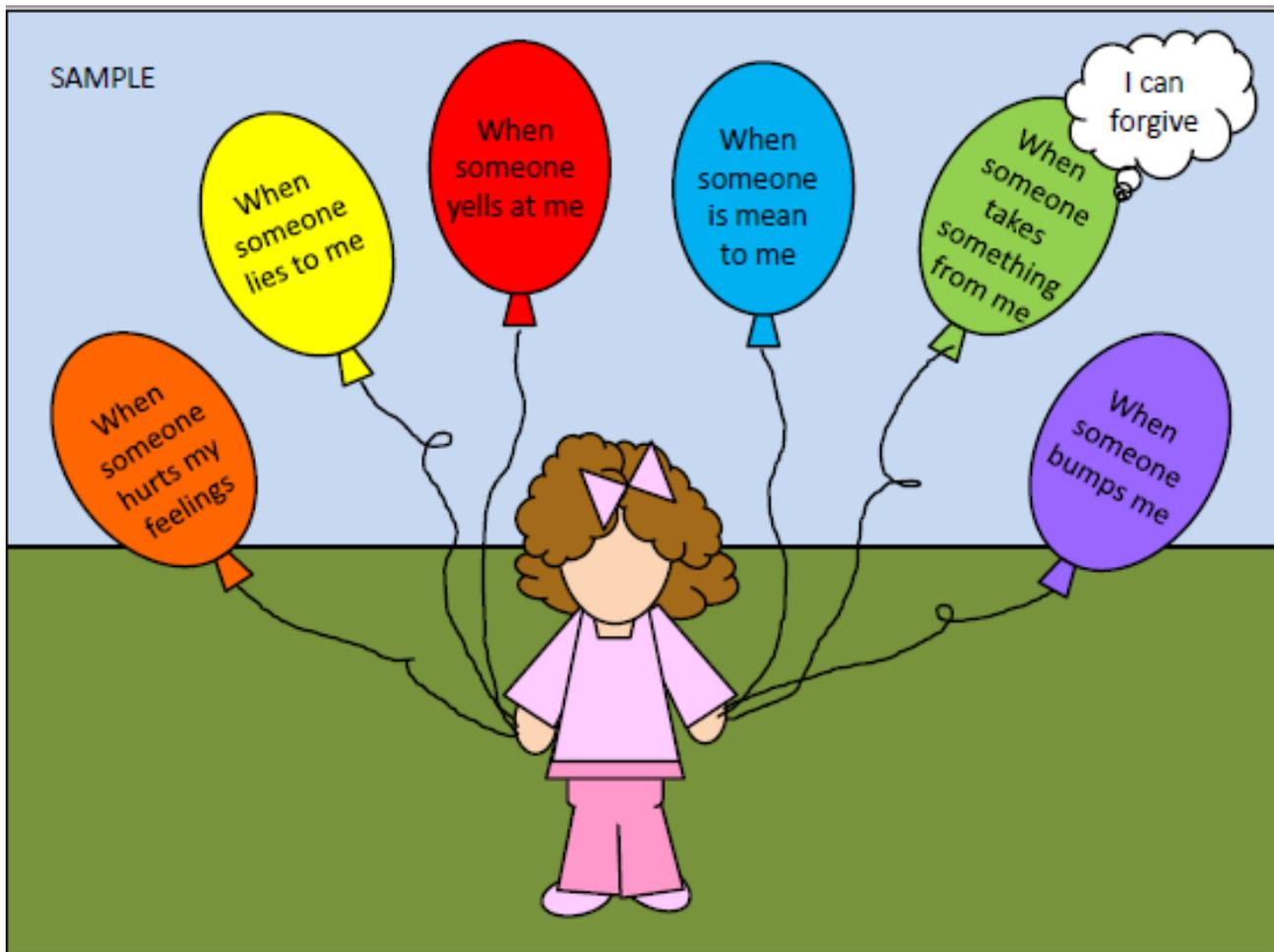


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PETER	ANSWERED	MANY	JESUS
SINS	FORGIVE	HOW	LORD
ASKED	TIMES	BROTHER	SEVEN

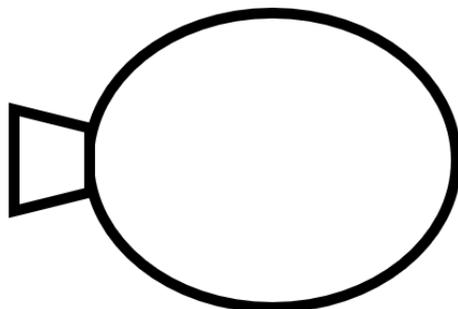
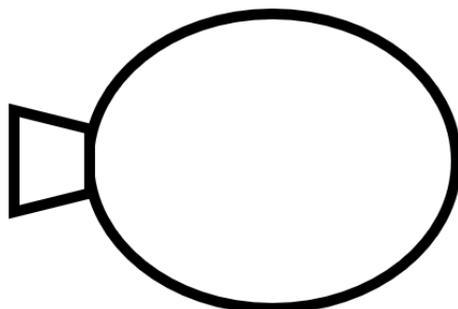
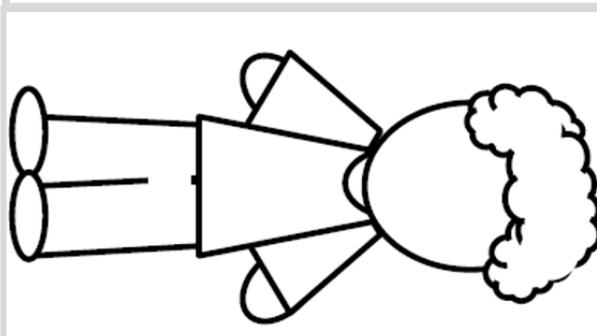
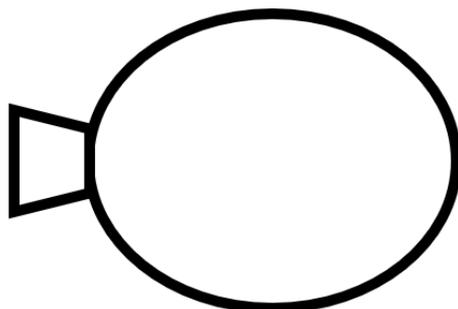
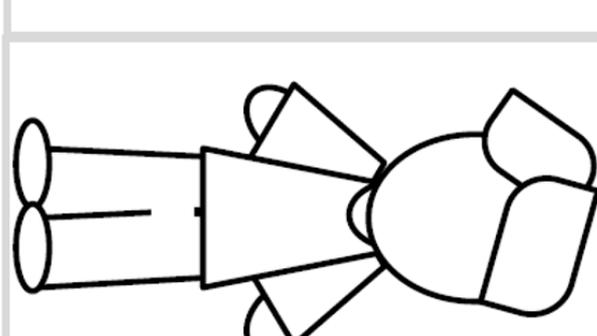
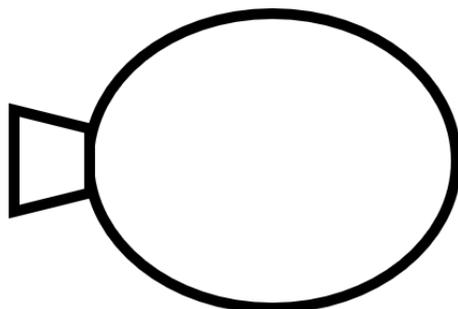
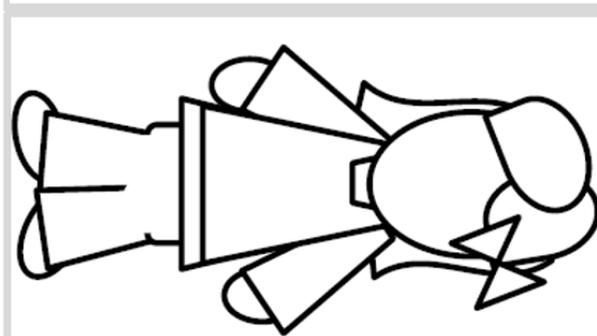
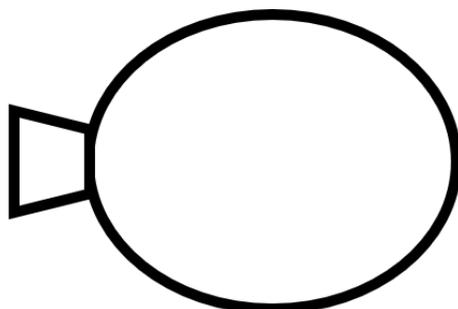
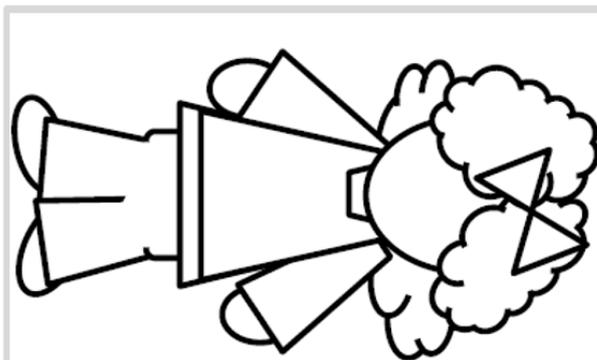
[https://sermons4kids.com/keep\\_on\\_forgiving\\_wordsearch.htm](https://sermons4kids.com/keep_on_forgiving_wordsearch.htm)

## Example of Warm up activity



<http://fashionsbylynda.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/forgiveness-balloon-activity2.pdf>

# Warm-up activity templates



**Taking the Warm-up activity further – large balloon template**

