

Dear Parents,

I will miss seeing you and your child(ren) in person for the rest of March, but I'm glad we are all staying safe. I hope you find this Interactive Bible Study from HCKids for you and your child(ren) to do together for March 22nd - April 4th helpful and enjoyable.

There are "hard copy packets" available to pick up at church that contain copies of conversation starters, activities, coloring pages, "God Time" pages, and any required materials for crafts etc.

Please use the enclosed resources to accommodate your family needs and personal style. Please feel free to pick and choose which activities you would like to do. **Let your child know that for each activity they choose to complete they will receive 1 point to spend at the "Store" when we resume normal life.** 😊 Please feel free to email me at losborne@hillcrestcov.org with any questions, praise reports, prayer requests, or to let me know how many points your child earned this week!

Video links will be provided each week at : hillcrestcov.org Go to menu: HCKids and click on "Connect with HCKids from Home" tab at the bottom of the page.

Don't forget to also check out the valuable resource: Right Now Media. You can access this through the church website: hillcrestcov.org Scroll to the very bottom and click on "Right Now Media Resource" button.

My prayer for your family and loved ones:

"He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart." Psalm 91:4

Please tell your child I miss seeing them and that Miss Lisa says, "Hi!"

With you through it all,
Lisa Osborne
HCKids Elementary Coordinator

4TH/5TH Grade Activities for March 29- April 4th

I Don't Want to Miss a Thing

Bible Story: I Don't Want to Miss a Thing (Older Brother) • *Luke 15:21-32*

Bottom Line: When you don't forgive, you miss out.

Key Question: What do you lose if you don't forgive?

Memory Verse: *Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13 (NIV)*

Life App: Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

1. Watch Videos – Please check your email for the video link for the week or call me at (916)901-2314

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Bibles, wrapped candy, cotton balls

What You Do:

- **Ask:**
 - What was the father's response to the younger brother's return?
 - How would you describe the older brother when he found out his father threw a party celebrating the younger son's return? *(If necessary, read Luke 15:28-29. Answers could include: angry, bitter, jealous, ungrateful)*
 - What was the older brother missing out on by choosing to hold onto his negative emotions toward his brother?
 - What was the father's response to his older son? *(Luke 15:31)*
- Even though what his younger brother did was wrong, the older son had a choice to make. The older brother could decide to let go of his anger and bitterness or he could hold on to it and decide his younger brother should pay.
- **Place** a wrapped piece of candy in front of child and **give** them a cotton ball.
- **Give** them time to think of something they may be holding against someone.
- **Explain** that the cotton ball represents something you're holding against someone.
- **Tell** them to hold on to the cotton ball with both hands and squeeze as tightly as they can.
- While squeezing the cotton ball with both hands, **challenge** them to unwrap the candy using only their hands.
- **Tell** them to open their hands so the cotton ball is resting on their palms.
- Just like you cannot grab onto the candy while focusing on squeezing the cotton ball, when you are holding on to grudges and focusing on how you may have been wronged, you could miss out on a lot. *(e.g. friendships, good times with others, joy, a party [like the older brother missed out on], etc.)*

Ask:

- What can it look like to hold a grudge?
- What are things people do when they hold a grudge? (*silent treatment, trash talk about people or share things about someone you shouldn't, be angry or be bitter towards someone, post negative stuff on social media, spend time plotting ways to get even, etc.*)
- What can it cost you to hold a grudge? For example, what might you miss out on if you decided to hold a grudge and not forgive a friend?
- What if a friend says something unkind to you and they never say they are sorry? Do you still forgive them? Do you only forgive someone if they ask you?
- Is forgiveness always fair? How does it make you feel when it's not fair?

[Make it Personal] (Be prepared to share about a time when someone treated you unfairly or when you were mad at someone for how they treated you. Did you forgive them right away? Did it take you time to forgive them? How did you feel when you decided to forgive them? Did you miss out on something because you wanted to make them pay?)

3. Related Bible Study

- Look up Matthew 22:37-39 and read it together.
- **Ask:**
 - How can forgiveness show others you love God?
 - How can forgiveness show others God loves them?
 - What opportunities can you miss out on when you choose not to forgive?

4. Journal Entry Ideas:

- **Write** the 5 “Bottom Lines” from the month on Forgiveness
 - 1. Forgive Others Because God Forgives You**
 - 2. When You Forgive Others, It Can Change Them**
 - 3. Take the First Step to Forgive Others**
 - 4. Everyone Needs to be Forgiven**
 - 5. When You Don't Forgive, You Miss Out**

And choose one to write a prayer to God about it.
- **Ask** them to think about a time recently when they held onto a grudge or resentment toward someone for something they did. If they are still holding grudges, encourage them to begin to let go of them and move toward forgiveness. They could journal about it asking God to help them let it go. They could journal about the situation they are thinking about considering all they have learned about forgiveness this month.

5. Prayer Suggestion

“God, Thank You for Your forgiveness and Your love. We want to show others Your love! God, please give us Your power and Your strength to forgive others. Help us to let go of anything we may be holding against others, so we don't miss out on the joy of Your forgiveness. Amen!”

6. “God Time” Paper for daily follow-up throughout the week.