

Family Values

Our Christian Value of the month is...

Forgiveness



Everyone makes mistakes; it is part of being human. Sometimes our mistakes hurt others and then we need to say sorry. Sometimes mistakes made by other people hurt us. When this happens we need to be able to forgive. Forgiveness can be difficult but without it, a new start is impossible. To forgive is to let go of the anger or animosity you feel towards a person who wronged you - you do not have to forget what they did or suddenly become their best friend – but it helps you release those bad feelings and move on. Forgiveness is the best form of love. It takes a strong person to say sorry and an even stronger person to forgive.

Think about ...

"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong." - Mahatma Gandhi

Talk about...

- A time when you needed to say sorry
- A time when you didn't say sorry but wish you had
- A time when you had to forgive someone who had hurt or upset you
- How it feels when you are given a new start because someone has forgiven you

Try this at home...

Matthew 18 V 21

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked "Lord , how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus replied up to seventy seven times.

Using the example above to help you get an idea of how you need to dig deep to forgive, see what you can achieve 77 times. Can you throw and catch a ball, do keepie ups, skip rope, count up to 77, thread 77 daisies on a chain, recite a tongue twister...be creative! Bring in a photo to share your success!

All activities earn 10 House Points



Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

Zacchaeus was a little man. He was a tax collector and had become rich by making others pay lots of money in taxes to the Romans and to him. He didn't have many friends.

When Zacchaeus heard Jesus was in town, he wanted to see him. But Zacchaeus was short and Jesus was always surrounded by a crowd. So Zacchaeus decided to run ahead of the crowd and climb a sycamore tree. From there he could watch for Jesus. As Jesus drew closer, he held his breath excitedly until Jesus stopped just beneath his tree. Jesus looked straight up at him! "Zacchaeus," said Jesus with a smile, "come on down. I want to stay at your house today!"

Zacchaeus hopped down. "You are welcome at my house, Jesus" he said with a huge grin.

But others grumbled, muttering to each other "Why does Jesus want to go home with the rich, cheating tax collector? He isn't good enough for Jesus to come and stay at his house."

Zacchaeus heard what the people were saying about him and wanted to put things right. He turned to Jesus and said, "Master, here and now, I promise to give half of my money to the poor. If I have cheated anyone in taxes, I will pay them back four times that amount."

Zacchaeus wanted to turn over a new leaf because Jesus believed that everyone deserved a new start and now Zacchaeus believed it too!

