

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY
CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K&K)

Lesson#72

Date:

SUBJECT: The Unforgiving Servant

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 18:21-35

AIM: To show the children the importance of forgiving one another.

MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 3:13b "...as the Lord forgave you, so also should you forgive."

REVIEW: Go over the meaning of the word parable and some of the parables taught thus far.

CONTENT: This week we are going to learn about forgiving. Does anyone know what "to forgive" means? This means if someone is bad to you and they say they are sorry you kind of forgave the bad thing that they did. For example, if you did something naughty and you really felt bad about it and you told your mommy, "I'm sorry". She would probably be happy that you said you were sorry and then forget that it happened. This is "to forgive".

I'm sure we all have said, "I'm sorry", to someone. It usually makes us feel better to say "sorry" to someone if we did something bad. Also I'm sure it makes you feel a little better if someone did something bad to you and then they say they are sorry.

The story we are going to hear about today was a story, or parable, which the Lord Jesus told after Peter (one of the Lord's friends), asked Him how many times he should forgive someone.

Once there was a king who went over what each of his servants owed him. One servant was brought to him who owed him a lot of money. He owed the king so much money that it was absolutely impossible for the servant to pay it back. The king became very angry. He told the servant to sell everything that he had in order to pay him back. The servant got down on his knees and begged the king to forgive him. The servant cried and promised somehow he would pay the king back. The king was very touched and felt bad for his servant. The king decided that the servant did not have to pay him back. He forgave the servant his debt.

This servant went on his way. I'm sure he was happy. But then he went and did something that was not nice.

This servant met a friend of his who owed him a very small amount of money. This servant was very mean to his friend and demanded that the friend pay him back immediately. The friend did not have the money but promised that he would pay him back if he could just wait a while. But the servant did not want to wait. He had his friend thrown in jail.

When the king heard what had happened he was very upset. He had the servant brought to him. The king asked the servant why he did not forgive his friend's small debt. The king had forgiven his large debt. Then the king had his servant thrown in jail until he could pay back all the money.

APPLICATION:

The Lord used this story to show us how important it is to forgive one another. The Bible tells that God forgives when we say we are sorry. This is an example for us to follow. If God can forgive us, then we must be able to forgive one another.

If someone says they are sorry to you for breaking your toy you need to forgive them. This is not always easy. Maybe it was a favorite toy of yours. You need to remember all the times that you should say “sorry” to someone when you did something bad to him and He will forgive you and said “O.K.”. You can also pray in your heart, “Lord Jesus help me to forgive others the way you forgive me.”