

# Vacation Church School

## *Virtues Unit 1*

### Lesson: Forgiveness

*He "... hath called us to glory and virtue."*

*2 Peter 1:3*

Goals: By the end of class the child should be able to:

1. Know the word "Forgiveness"
2. Remember God wants us to forgive
3. Understand what forgiveness means.
4. Know the scripture verse (by the end of week)

### Vocabulary: *(for week)*

- |            |                |                   |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Patient | 4. Kindness    | 7. Book of Mormon |
| 2. Love    | 5. Forgiveness | 8. Virtue         |
| 3. Truth   | 6. Bible       | 9. Glory          |

### Materials Needed:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible                           | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Book of Mormon</u>                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> stapler                         | <input type="checkbox"/> big crayons                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> marker                          | <input type="checkbox"/> salt & pepper shakers <sup>(supplied)</sup> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 clear glasses of water        | <input type="checkbox"/> Potted flower                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KEEP BOX                        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Items for "I Have Virtues Book" |  |

### Preparation:

1. *Scripture Activity:*
  - a. Assemble Virtue book (1 per child per week)
2. *Introduction Activity:*
  - a. Fill salt and pepper shakers (salt into "Forgiveness" pepper into "Angry")
  - b. Have two glasses filled with water
  - c. Practice activity to see how much pepper is needed - to be apparent.
3. *Vocabulary Words:*

- a. Cut out vocabulary words and back them on poster board.
- b. Put Vocabulary Words up on wall for children to see and remember the words (for younger children - finding a picture to go with the word helps them remember it better)

Introduction Activity:

In both the Bible and Book of Mormon it says we are supposed to always forgive each other. That means when people do things that upset us we don't stay angry.

*Hold up glass of water*

Can you name a time that someone made you mad or sad?

*Give each child a chance to respond, each time they say something dump some pepper into the glass.*

Can you see those flakes in the water? Each of those is like a time you didn't forgive someone when they did something.

*Get a new glass of water*

Now can you name those things again and let's see what happens to the water when you forgive someone.

*This time shake salt into the water*

Look, you can't see those flakes any more. They are still in there but this time we forgave.

That's how Jesus wants us to be. It might still make us mad or sad when people do mean things, but we are to forgive them and not think about it anymore.

Now, if I wanted to give these flowers some water to drink, which water do you think would be best for it?

*Yes, the clear water*

That's the same for us in our lives we must be clean and free from sin so that we can grow up strong!

I am going to read a story about a very good tiger... he was good because he was forgiving.

Story: Tiger Forgives *(read in book)*

Discussion:

Can anyone tell me what forgiveness means? *Let children respond...*

Help them to the understanding that it means to not stay angry when people do things not nice.

**Yes, very good. When we are forgive we are don't stay mad at people. We are nice to people even if they are not nice to us.**

**God says that He will bless us, when we forgive. Can anyone tell me a time when you forgave someone?**

Help children think of times...

-someone took their toy; someone called them a name, or hit them.

**Those are all hard times to forgive...but remember that's what God wants us to always do.**

### **Review Activity: 3 in a Row**

Have 3 children line up in front of room. Encourage each child to stand in different position. (Example: on one foot, hands on head, hands on bent knees) Then have the 3 children leave the room, mix up, and return to front of the class in normal stance. Let the other children try to remember what each of the children were doing before they left the room. When they figure it out the correct positions, choose 3 other children to repeat the game. Emphasize that we have to think hard in order to remember. Continue this activity as long as interest or time allows.

*Post-Game Discussion Questions:*

1. How did you remember how your friends were standing when we played the game?
2. What are things you wish other people would remember about you?
3. What are things you wish they wouldn't remember?
4. What happens when you forgive somebody?
5. What happens when Jesus forgives us?

Sometimes when people remember us, they remember all the wrong things - only the things we wish they'd forget. But Jesus, when he forgives us, doesn't remember what we've done. He throws all our sins away!

### **Scripture Activity:**

Holding the Holy Bible and the Book of Mormon.

There are lots of scriptures in the Bible and Book of Mormon that talk about how we should live our life. In order to be good like Jesus we must have virtues. One of the virtues is forgiveness.

Jesus wants us to forgive others when they make us upset. When you grow up there will be lots of times you will need to forgive others. When we forgive others, God forgives us of our sins.

Let's read the page in our "I have Virtues Book"

Read pages together, let children decorate Forgiveness page of "I Have Virtues" book

*Use any extra time for outside unstructured play*

*Labels for salt and pepper shakers*

