

# Friendship means using your words and actions to show others you care.

WEEK  
4  
2ND-3RD

DAY 1

## Read Colossians 3:13

If you spend any amount of time around someone else, that someone else is probably going to get on your nerves. When that happens, what do you do? Do you yell right back, say something mean, or ignore him too?

Paying someone back when they bug you isn't how friendship should work. Everyone messes up sometimes, including you. That means that everyone will need to be forgiven, including you. In order to protect our friendships, sometimes we just need to "put up with one another", forgive and move on. The only way we can do that is to remember that **God loves and forgives us, always.**

Unscramble the words below and read the phrase aloud. Ask God to help you follow through and forgive others this week so you can be a good friend to others.

RDINSEF

FRGVEIO

NOE

ETRNOAH

Answer: Friends forgive one another.

DAY 2

## Read Ephesians 4:32

When was the last time a friend did something that hurt you? What happened? Have you forgiven them?

When was the last time you did something that hurt someone else? What happened? Have you asked for forgiveness?

Forgiveness is definitely a two-way street. Sometimes you need it, sometimes you need to give it. It helps to start with kindness. When someone hurts you and says, "I'm sorry," instead of holding onto your anger or looking for ways to hurt them back, **God asks us to forgive.** He loves you so much that sent His only Son Jesus so that you could be forgiven. And because He's already forgiven you, God wants you to forgive others too.

Grab the thickest rubber band you can find. If you don't have a rubber band, ask an adult to help you make a bracelet out of duct tape. Write the word "FORGIVEN" and "FORGIVE" on the bracelet in big block letters. As you wear your bracelet this week, ask God to help you forgive others just as He's forgiven you.

Friends forgive one another.

PARENT CUE

DAY 3

### Read Luke 17:3-4

3 + 4 = \_\_\_

12 - 5 = \_\_\_

20 - 13 = \_\_\_

Did you get the same answer for all three of the math problems above? What was that answer? Yes, seven!

Is there anything you do seven times a day? You probably don't eat seven meals a day. Or brush your teeth seven times.

Have you ever forgiven someone seven times? That seems like a lot doesn't it? But what if you reverse the idea. What if you are the one who messes up? Wouldn't you want to be forgiven seven times? Of course. And the awesome reality is, we have. When we confess—or tell God what we've done and say we're sorry—He will forgive. Instead of keeping score or holding a grudge, remember that friends forgive one another.

Write down the names of seven friends in the space below. As you pray today, call out each friend's name and ask God to help you stop keeping score and just forgive them as He has forgiven you.

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DAY 4

### Read Luke 6:31

We've been talking about friendship all month long. Friendship is using your words and actions to show you care. Grab a piece of paper. At the top of the page write "A Good Friend." Then, cover your page with words that describe a good friend. (We've already learned a few to get you started: loves, encourages, forgives)

Everyone wants to have good friends. **The secret to having good friends is to be a good friend.** And the best way to be a good friend is by applying the golden rule every day. It's found in our verse today. The golden rule says to treat others the way you want to be treated.

So, here's a little challenge. Hang your good friend sign on the bathroom mirror. Each day as you wash your hands or brush your teeth, focus on one or two of the words you've written on the page. Then ask God to help treat others the way you want to be treated and thank Him for the friends He's given you!

