

The Unmerciful Servant

Babies and Toddlers

Bible Passage: Matthew 18:21-35

Key Passage: Mark 6:34

Main Point: Jesus told stories about God.

The Bible Story (Watch this week's [IDC Kids Preschool Video](#))

Matthew 18:21-35

Jesus told a story about forgiveness. Jesus said a king had a servant who owed him more money than he could ever repay. The servant said, "Be patient, and I will pay you everything." The king did better than that—he forgave the debt. The servant did not have to pay anything! But when the servant left, he found another servant who owed him a little bit of money. The other servant said, "Be patient with me." But the first servant put that servant in jail. The other servants told the king, who was very angry! "I forgave you everything! You should have forgiven your fellow servant because I forgave you!" the king said. The king punished the servant. Jesus was saying we can forgive others because God has forgiven us so much.

Gospel Gems

Jesus told a story about forgiveness.

God forgives us through His Son, Jesus.

We forgive others because Jesus forgives us. old a story about the good news.

Babies Activities

Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for your baby to handle. Open your Bible to Matthew 18 as you say the Gospel Gems.

Say: Jesus told stories about God. God forgives us through His Son, Jesus. We forgive others because Jesus forgives us. [*Pray.*]

Define *forgiveness* as treating someone with kindness when he makes a wrong choice.

Sing a Song

Sing the first verse of "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus."

"Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;

Things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here;

Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,

Stories of Jesus, tell them to me."

Say: Jesus told stories about God. Jesus told a story about forgiveness. God forgives us through His Son, Jesus.

Shake coins

Place several coins in empty plastic spice jars and seal them with duct tape. Invite babies to shake the jars to hear the coins.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus told a story about forgiveness. The king forgave the man. God forgives us through His Son, Jesus.

Toddler Activities

Make handprint art

Trace your toddler's hand onto folded construction paper several times and cut out the hands. Help your toddler glue the handprints to another sheet of paper so that her hands form the shape of a heart. Toddlers may color the heart with crayons. Write the Main Point on each paper.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** God forgives us through His Son, Jesus. We forgive others because Jesus forgives us.

Explore a Parable box

Place items from the Bible story in the parable box from the previous week. Consider using a sealed plastic jar with many coins, a sealed plastic jar with a few coins, and a toy crown. Invite toddlers to handle items as you review the story.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus told a story about forgiveness.

Weigh coins

Provide a kitchen scale and sealed ziplock bags with coins. Invite toddlers to weigh the coins to see which bag has the most.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus told a story about forgiveness. We forgive others because Jesus forgives us.