

Parable of the Sower

IDC Kids Preschool

Bible Passage: Matthew 18:21-35

Key Passage: Mark 6:34

Main Point: Jesus taught about God's forgiveness.

Big Picture Question: Why did Jesus tell stories? Jesus told stories to teach people about God.

Christ Connection: Because of our sin, we owe God more than we could ever repay. We deserve to be punished. But Jesus came and died on the cross for our sin. He was punished instead of us. He paid what we owe God. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin—all of it! We can forgive others because God has forgiven us so much.

Watch this week's [IDC Kids Online Video](#)

For added reinforcement, retell the story below. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

Talk about the Bible story

When we do not forgive other people when they hurt us, we are like the servant in the story Jesus told. **Jesus taught about God's forgiveness.** We are sinners, and we sin more times than we can count. But God forgives all our sin when we trust in Jesus. We can forgive others when they hurt us because God has forgiven us so much.

Ask the following review questions:

How much money did the king forgive the servant? (*fifty million silver coins*)

How much money did the other man owe the servant? (*one hundred silver coins*)

What did the servant do to the man who owed him? (*threw him in jail*)

What did the king do when he heard how the servant treated the other man? (*punished the servant and made him pay back what he owed*)

Learn the big picture question

Say • Our big picture question asks, ***Why did Jesus tell stories? Jesus told stories to teach people about God.*** Peter did not understand what forgiveness is like in God's kingdom, so Jesus told him a story to teach him about God's forgiveness.

Practice the key passage

Open your Bible to Mark 6:34. Read the key passage aloud several times.

Say • Jesus taught people about God because He cares about people. Jesus loves us and wants us to know what His Father is like.

Activities

Spell **FORGIVE**

Write **F**, **O**, **R**, **G**, **I**, **V**, and **E** on separate pieces of construction paper. Hide the letters in the room for your child to find. Write **FORGIVE** on another sheet of paper so your child can order the letters properly once they have found them.

Say • **Jesus taught about God's forgiveness.** *Forgiveness* is when someone does something wrong to you, and you choose not to be mad at them or make them pay you back. God forgives us of our sin because Jesus paid what we owed.

Clean coins

Mix ketchup and vinegar. Encourage children to clean coins by dipping them in the mixture and then rubbing them clean. Keep paper towels handy to dry the coins and clean up hands.

Say • The king's servant owed him about 50 million silver coins. That was too much money to ever pay back! Like the servant, we owe God more than we could ever repay, but Jesus paid for our sin when He died on the cross and came back to life. **Jesus taught about God's forgiveness** through this Bible story.

Compare 7, 70, and 490

Draw 7 and 70 dots on separate sheets of paper. Make 7 copies of the 70 dots to create 490 dots. Provide beans for counting. Direct each child to count out 7. Take 10 of the sets of 7 and explain that is 70. Compare 7 to 70. Then show the papers to compare 7, 70, and 490.

Challenge preschoolers to cover all the dots with beans.

Say • **Jesus taught about God's forgiveness.** Because God has forgiven us of our sin through Jesus, we can forgive anyone for anything.

Make play money

Cut sheets of paper into thirds. Give each preschooler several pieces. Invite preschoolers to make their own play money by decorating the paper with markers or crayons. Display bills for preschoolers to look at for inspiration.

Say • **Jesus taught about God's forgiveness** by telling a story. The king in the story was angry because his servant did not forgive the man who owed him a little money after the king had forgiven the servant for owing him a lot of money. When we do not forgive people, we are like that servant. God forgives our sin when we trust in Jesus—all of it! How can we not forgive others?

Stack coins

Set out an assortment of real or plastic coins. Invite preschoolers to stack the coins. Challenge a preschooler to see how high of a stack she can make. Create several stacks near each other and compare the sizes. Count the number of coins in each stack.

Say • In the story Jesus told, the servant owed the king way more silver coins than the man owed the servant. The king forgave the servant's debt, but the servant did not forgive the other man. **Jesus taught about God's forgiveness.** Because of our sin, we owe God more than we could ever repay. But Jesus paid what we owe God. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin—all of it! We can forgive others because God has forgiven us so much.

Activity page

Download and print [this week's activity page](#)

Guide preschoolers to circle the stack with the most coins in each row. Help preschoolers count coins as needed.

Say • In today's Bible story, Jesus told a story about a servant who owed a king fifty million silver coins! Another man owed the servant one hundred silver coins. Fifty million is much more than one hundred. Listen to our Bible story to discover what happened to the servant.

Pray

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have.

Say • Thank You, Jesus, for telling this story so we could learn about God's forgiveness. Help us to be forgiving towards others because we have received forgiveness through You. Amen.