



# Lesson Ten

## Jesus Says, “Forgive Others”

### Heart Preparation

God’s Word teaches that we must be peacemakers and we must forgive others. Retaliation, getting even, or even a “live and let live” attitude should have no place in the life and heart of the growing believer.

Jesus taught that those who pursue peace making and reconciliation even when they have suffered wrong are truly blessed. As they forgive, God’s children model the mercy and love that their heavenly Father has extended to them.

Your young children are just beginning to understand what it means to forgive. Help them learn that forgiving others means that we treat those who sin against us kindly and fairly, and that we continue to love them. Teach them to say words that extend mercy, and pray that God will help them mean it when they say, “I forgive you.”

Remind them that just as God has forgiven their sins in Christ Jesus, so he wants his children to forgive others who sin against them. Our heavenly Father tells us to pursue faith, love, peace and to be kind to everyone. (2 Timothy 2:22, 24)

May your example truly show each child what it means to be a peacemaker, and pray that God would help them learn to forgive from the heart.

### Bible Background

With young children, we just want to teach the general principle of forgiving others who sin against us as God forgives us. But remember, there is also the issue of repentance. God forgives those who repent, and then there is reconciliation. Receiving God’s forgiveness changes our heart response towards others. God’s Word teaches that receiving and giving forgiveness cannot be separated. God wants us to develop a forgiving attitude towards others, even when they sin against us repeatedly. (Luke 17:3–4)



#### Bible Truth

*Jesus taught his disciples to forgive others, just as God has forgiven them.*

#### Scripture

*Matthew 5:9–12; 6:12; 18:21–35*



#### Lesson Focus

*Since God forgives us, we must forgive one another.*

#### Goals for the Children

- Talk about being hurt or angry.
- Learn what it means to forgive others.
- Plan ways to forgive in word and deed.



#### Memory Minute

*Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*  
*Matthew 6:12 (KJV)*