

# Application Activities

Select from the following choices. Each choice is designed for 20 minutes of small group time.

## Pull It Together

Large paper clips, string, scissors, a large variety of small metal objects (keys, notebook rings, binder clips, washers)

- Cut equal lengths of string (4 pieces per child).

## Teacher Tips

- Encourage the children to tie the string in a double knot for added strength.
- Consider using fishing line instead of string for a sturdier set of chimes.

## Worship Through Arts and Crafts

- Review the Bible story. Emphasize Jesus' authority to forgive sins. Say: "The Bible says that we need to forgive others just as God forgives us."
- Tell about a time when you forgave or were forgiven by someone else. Invite the children to share their experiences with forgiveness.
- Say: "Let's make wind chimes. Just as the paralyzed man in the story was lowered with ropes by his friends, our chimes will hang from strings. Whenever we hear the chimes, they will remind us of today's Bible story and Jesus' example of forgiveness."
- Provide each child with a large paper clip. Instruct him to bend the clip into the shape of a triangle.
- Provide each child with four pieces of string. Guide him to tie each piece of string to one side of the triangle.
- Invite each child to choose four metal objects. Lead him to tie each object to a separate piece of string.
- Provide each child with a long piece of string and a paper clip. Instruct him to tie this piece of string and clip to the corner of the triangle opposite the chimes to form a hook for hanging the chimes.
- Lead the children in a prayer, asking God for help in forgiving others.

## Pull It Together

Poster board, markers, paper, scissors, paper clips, small magnets, glue

## Teacher Tip

Looking for additional resources to enhance your teaching? Check out the *Levels of Biblical Learning* resources available at [www.lifeway.com/levelsofbiblicalllearning](http://www.lifeway.com/levelsofbiblicalllearning).

## Worship Through Dramatic Play

- Review the Bible story. Emphasize Jesus' authority to forgive sins. Say: "The Bible says that we need to forgive others just as God forgives us."
- Tell about a time when you forgave or were forgiven by someone else. Invite the children to share their experiences with forgiveness.
- Form two teams. Provide each team with a piece of poster board, markers, paper, scissors, paper clips, glue, and magnets.
- Say: "Let's create paper theaters to tell today's Bible story. Some members of your team will cut out paper characters for our theater. They will glue a paper clip to the back of each character. Other members of your team will draw the scenery on the poster board. By holding magnets behind the poster board, team members will be able to move the characters around the scenery as someone tells the Bible story."
- Signal the children to begin working. Allow each team time to practice.
- Invite the teams to take turns performing for one another.
- Praise the children for their good work. Encourage the children to practice forgiveness during the upcoming week.
- Lead the children in a prayer, thanking God for His forgiveness.

### Pull It Together

Cardboard tubes, balloons, paper, pencil, masking tape.

- Write each of the following verses on 2 separate slips of paper (to make 2 sets of slips): *Psalm 86:5*, *Mark 11:25*, *Luke 6:37*, *1 John 1:9*
- Make a starting line with masking tape at one end of the room.
- Make a finish line with masking tape at the opposite end of the room from the starting line.
- Place each slip of paper inside a balloon.
- Inflate and tie off each balloon.
- Be certain there are 2 sets of balloons each containing 4 different verse slips.

## Worship Through Games

- Review the Bible story. Emphasize Jesus' authority to forgive sins. Say: "The Bible says that we need to forgive others just as God forgives us."
- Tell about a time when you forgave or were forgiven by someone else. Invite the children to share their experiences with forgiveness.
- Form two teams. Guide the teams to line up side by side behind the starting line. Provide each child with a balloon. Provide the child at the head of each line with a tube.
- Say: "When it is your turn, you will place your balloon on the tube and go as quickly as you can to your team's Bible. Once you reach the Bible, you will pop your balloon, read your slip, look up the Bible verse written on your slip, and read aloud the verse to your team. You will then return to your team and pass the tube to the next person. Let's see which team can finish first."
- Instruct each child to keep one hand behind his back as he travels with the balloon. Also inform him that he must return to the starting line if the balloon touches the floor before he reaches the Bible.
- Signal the teams to begin.
- Congratulate the team that finished first.
- Review the verses with the children at the conclusion of the race.
- Lead the children in a prayer, confessing their need to forgive others.

### Pull It Together

2 long pieces of rope, a sturdy wooden board

## Worship Through Exploration and Discovery

- Review the Bible story. Emphasize Jesus' authority to forgive sins. Say: "The Bible says that we need to forgive others just as God forgives us."
- Tell about a time when you forgave or were forgiven by someone else. Invite the children to share their experiences with forgiveness.
- Center a separate piece of rope lengthwise under each end of the board.
- Enlist a volunteer to stand at each end of the board. Invite the volunteers to practice raising and lowering the board with the ropes. Challenge the volunteers to keep the board as level as possible during the activity.
- Allow other children to swap places with the volunteers so that every child has an opportunity to participate in the activity.
- Repeat the activity several times with the following changes: (1) load a stack of books on the board, (2) place a ball on the board, and (3) sit one of the smaller children on the board as you hold him for safety.
- Gather the children together and let them share their observations about the activity. Encourage the children to express how they believe the four friends in the story felt while lowering the paralyzed man.
- Say: "Just like raising and lowering the board, forgiveness is not always easy. But God wants us to forgive."
- Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to forgive them.