

Sunday between June 12 and 18 – year C

Preparation

Read [Luke 7: 36 – 8: 3](#). Pay attention to the words or phrases that jump at you. Read over the lesson so that you are familiar with what is intended to happen. Gather the materials that you will need for each section of the lesson. For deeper thinking or for ways to extend the lesson take a look at the following websites:

<http://www.textweek.com/yearc/properc6.htm>

http://archive.episcopalchurch.org/lessonPlans/109452_115790_ENG_HTM.htm:

scroll down to find this week's lesson

<http://www.efree.mb.ca/lectionarypuzzles/in-cwv.htm#p11>: word puzzles

<http://children.cccm.com/NTSupportCurriculumPDF/231AnointingJesusFeet.pdf>

<http://children.cccm.com/NTSupportCurriculumPDF/230TheSonOfTheWidow.pdf>

http://www.sermons4kids.com/debt_forgiven.htm

<http://www.sundayschoollessons.com/pent2les.htm>

<http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/c/11-c/K-11-c.html>

Gathering

Materials needed

- Small table or end of one table
- Candle
- Candle lighter
- Bible and bookmark
- Green cloth
- Newsprint and markers

Print up the prayer on the newsprint so that the readers can say the prayer with you.

With the children place the cloth on the table. Have them help you place the Bible on the cloth.

Light the candle. Pray the following prayer together:

Loving God, creator of us all, be with us today.

Loving Jesus, friend of us all, show us the way.

Loving Spirit, helper of us all, stir us with love everyday. Amen.

Blow out the candle. Ask the children to remember a time where they did something so wrong that they didn't know if anyone would ever forgive them for it. *Spend a few moments in quiet and let the children just think about this – no one needs to share at this point.*

Then ask the children what happened when they were forgiven for something they did – how did they feel about this?

Spend a few moments having the children share their feelings with each other.

Explain that in today's story they are going to hear a lot about forgiveness and how the people around Jesus reacted to his words.

Story Time

Jesus was continuing to travel around the countryside going to all the various towns and villages with his friends. In one of the towns that Jesus came to there was a Pharisee named Simon who invited him to come to dinner. Jesus decided that he would go. When he came to Simon's house he took the place that was set for him at the table.

A woman who was a sinner who lived in the town, learned that Jesus was in town and that he would be having supper with Simon the Pharisee. She decided to go and see Jesus. She brought with her special ointment in a very expensive jar.

When she came into the house the woman went and stood behind Jesus. She began to weep and weep. She began to wash Jesus' feet with her tears and then to dry them with her hair. The woman continued to kiss Jesus' feet and touch them by putting on the ointment that she had brought with her.

Now Simon the Pharisee, who had invited Jesus to dinner, could see what was going on. Simon said to himself, "If Jesus is really a prophet, he would know who that woman is and all the bad things that she has done. Jesus would know that she is a sinner."

Jesus spoke up and said, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Yes, Teacher, please speak." said Simon.

So Jesus told Simon and the other guests this story:

There once was a banker who had loaned money to two different people.
The first person had borrowed 500 dollars. The other person had borrowed 50 dollars.
It turned out that neither of these people could pay the banker back.
The banker decided to cancel what the two people owed to him.
Now which of the two will love the banker more?

Simon responded, "I guess it would be the one who had the greater amount forgiven."

Jesus told Simon, "You have answered well."

Jesus then turned to the woman who was still at his feet and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? When I came into your house you didn't give me any water to wash my feet. This woman has washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You did not give me oil for my head, but she has put ointment on my feet. So I want to tell you that because her sins which were many have been forgiven and so she shows great love. The one who has had little forgiven loves little.

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."

Some of the people who were there at dinner began to say to each other,
"Who is this Jesus that he forgives the sins of people?"

Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you, go in peace."

Jesus and his friends left that town and went to other parts of the Galilee to share the good news of God with everyone they met. Peter, James, John, Andrew, Simon, Matthew and all the rest of the twelve were with Jesus. Mary Magdalene, who Jesus had healed, Joanna, Susanna and other women were also with Jesus. They helped to care for all of them out of the money they had available to them.

Response

Project Idea 1: Forgiveness Placemats

This response will be a way for the children to share the story of forgiveness with their families.

Materials needed

- poster board
- clear contact paper
- magazines
- markers
- scissors
- glue sticks

Instructions

Cut the poster board into four pieces. Make enough so that each child will have a piece of poster board to use. Give each child a piece of poster board and have them print wherever they want on it the following: **“We are forgiven”**. Remind the children that Jesus will forgive us if we show faith. Ask them to look through the magazines for pictures that express for them forgiveness. Have them cut them out and glue onto their poster board. When they are happy with what they have done, help them to attach a piece of contact paper to the placemat – this will help protect and make it useable at home. Encourage the children to use their placemats at home and share today’s story with their families.

Project Idea 2: Forgiveness Bookmarks

With this response the children will be able to give Jesus’ gift to someone else who needs to hear about it.

Materials needed

- card stock
- scissors
- hole punch
- contact paper
- yarn
- markers
- tissue paper
- glue sticks

Instructions

Cut the card stock into 5 cm (2 in) widths and make two for each child. Have the children print down the bookmarks **“We are forgiven”** with a marker. Have them tear the tissue paper into small pieces and glue them around the words on the bookmarks. When they are done both of them help them to cover them with the contact paper. Trim the edges of the contact paper with the scissors. Have the children punch a hole in one end of the bookmark and then tie a piece of yarn in it to finish it off. Suggest to the children that they keep one bookmark for themselves and give the other one to someone who needs to hear the message from Jesus that we are all forgiven by God.

Project Idea 3: Forgiveness Paper Chains

This response will be a way for the children to practice the kind of forgiveness that Jesus talks about in the story.

Materials needed

- construction paper
- scissors
- glue sticks
- markers

Instructions

Give each child two pieces of construction paper. Have the children cut the construction paper into 5 cm (2 in) strips along the long side. When they are done cutting their strips have them print on one side of the construction paper **“Jesus forgives us”** on each strip. Show them how to make a paper chain by gluing one of the pieces into a circle by attaching the ends together – the words can be on the outside or inside as the children choose – and then place another piece inside the first one and attach the ends by gluing them together. Continue on this way until the children have attached all their chains into one big one. Suggest to the children that every time they get into an argument with a family member or a friend they take off one chain and remind themselves what Jesus had to say to each of us about forgiveness and how we all need to practice it. Encourage the children to put up their forgiveness chains at home somewhere where they can see and use it on a regular basis.

Closing

Gather with the children around the worship table again. Relight the candle. Say the prayer line by line and encourage the children to repeat it after you:

**Thank you God for loving care;
Thank you Jesus for loving choices;
Thank you Spirit for loving ways. Amen.**