

Press On in Confidence

Lesson #25

Colossians 3:11-17 NLT, Ephesians 4:32 NLT

HOOK: Mia and Ophelia were best friends. They liked doing things together like jumping on the trampoline and making crafts, but one day, as they played, Mia said something hurtful to Ophelia. She became upset and left Mia's house, telling her, "I'm going home because you're not being very nice!" Later that day, Mia was sorry for what she had said to Ophelia. She wanted them to be friends again so she went next door to apologize.

"I'm so sorry I was mean to you, Ophelia," Mia said when Ophelia answered the door. "I shouldn't have said what I said. Will you forgive me?"

Ophelia thought for a few minutes. Mia's unkind words did hurt her feelings. She really didn't *feel* like forgiving Mia, but then Ophelia remembered how, just the night before, she hadn't been very nice to her little brother. Ophelia had refused to share with him and was sassy to Mom when she was told to "be kind." Ophelia had to admit that she did wrong sometimes, too. She sinned and often had to ask God and others for forgiveness.

"What you said to me hurt my feelings," Ophelia told Mia. "But, I do forgive you. Thank you for saying 'sorry'."

"Awesome!" Mia cheered and hugged her friend. "I'll be more careful to be kind," she promised. "Friends?"

"Friends!" Ophelia answered, as the two ran off to jump on the trampoline together.

BOOK: The Bible has a lot to say about how we are to treat each other. We learn in Colossians and in other books of the Bible that God loves us and we are to love others. Part of loving each other is forgiving one another when someone hurts us or makes us mad. God has forgiven us for our sins (the wrong things we do), so we are to forgive others when they wrong us. The Bible says, "...**forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.**"

LOOK: Sin is falling short of God's standards or "offending" Him. When we offend someone we should confess it to the Lord and ask the person to forgive us. When we are offended, we need to forgive. This not only pleases God, but it is healing to us and the other person as well.

TOOK: Like Mia, all say things we shouldn't sometimes. And like Ophelia, we don't always feel like we want to forgive. But, we must remember that God always forgives us and wants us to forgive others. Let's practice saying these important words together: "I'm sorry" (kids repeat), "Please forgive me" (repeat) and "I forgive you" (repeat). God wants us not to just say these words but truly mean them—and He can help us to do that! This week, practice saying those words whenever you offend someone or you've been offended.

Bible Verse: "...forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others." Colossians 3:13b NLT

Prayer: "Dear Lord, Thank You for forgiving us each time we sin against You. Help us to obey You and be to kind, loving and forgiving of others when they offend us. Amen."

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what we
learned

We learn in Colossians and in other books of the Bible that God loves us and we are to love others. Part of loving each other is forgiving one another when someone hurts us or makes us mad. God has forgiven us for our sins (the wrong things we do), so we are to forgive others when they wrong us. The Bible says, “...**forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.**” Sin is falling short of God’s standards or “offending” Him. When we offend someone we should confess it to the Lord and ask the person to forgive us. When we are offended, we need to forgive. This not only pleases God, but it is healing to us and the other person as well.



memory
verse

**“...forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”
Colossians 3:13b NLT**



parent/child
activity

This week grasp a heightened awareness of forgiving others and asking for forgiveness. Set that example for your child and verbalize phrases like, “I’m sorry,” “Please forgive me,” and “I forgive you”. Then, when he expresses himself in a similar way, acknowledge it. Point out to your child that asking for forgiveness and forgiving others pleases God and brings healing to us and the other person involved. It’s a win-win-win!



daily prayer

“Dear Lord, Thank You for forgiving us each time we sin against You. Help us to obey You and be to kind, loving and forgiving of others when they offend us. Amen.”

the learning
TLC
continues