

## 4

SERIES: HOW STUFF WORKS

## How Forgiveness Works

[PursueGOD.org](http://PursueGOD.org)

*Props: Hang up gears and tools with the words "How Stuff Works" in big colorful letters.*

**Slide: Welcome**

*(Start kid's countdown once all classes are present.)*

Hey kids! Welcome to Kid's Church. I'm so glad you could be here today.

**Slide: Series Intro**

Today we're finishing our series called "How Stuff Works". Let's do a quick review. What did we learn about feelings? (allow kids to answer) Right! God gave us feelings to help us in life but we need to make sure we keep them under control. What did we learn about friendship? (allow kids to answer). You guys are so smart! We learned that we need friends but we need to choose the right kind of friends. Why do we need to choose our friends wisely? (allow kids to answer). Right, because our friends will rub off on us. What are the "gimmies"? (allow kids to answer). Right, the "gimmies" make us greedy for more stuff. What is the cure for the "gimmies"? (allow kids to answer) You got it! The cure is to be thankful for what you already have.

Today, we're going to learn about how forgiveness works. Forgiveness is the response God wants us to have when people mess up and hurt our feelings.

We'll talk about that more in a few minutes. But first, let's stand and sing.

**Song**

*Imagine the Impossible*

Good job! I think God loves hearing all your voices praising him! Now let's say our Big Idea together.

**Slide: Big Idea**

*All together:*

*We should forgive because Jesus has forgiven us. (Repeat)*

**Video**

*Play lesson video.*

**Slide: Recap**

So, what did we learn from the video today? Let's review...

- Forgiveness means you don't hold a \_\_\_(grudge)
- Forgiveness is like giving someone a \_\_\_(gift)
- True or False: Jesus forgives us, so we should forgive others. (T)

Think about a time a friend hurt your feelings. Maybe they yelled at you or left you out at recess. It feels yucky, right? In that moment, you get to make a choice. You can get paybacks and treat them the same way they've treated you or you can choose to forgive them. Now, do you think forgiveness means you're giving them permission to keep treating you badly? No, choosing to forgive means you're giving them another chance to treat you better. You're giving them a "do over". That's why forgiveness is a gift. Your forgiveness gives your friend a chance to change their behavior so you can keep being friends.

That reminds me of our memory verse. Let's all stand and say it together.

### **Slide: Memory Verse**

"Make allowances (hands out as in giving) for each other's (point around) faults, and forgive (hands in prayer) anyone who has offended you. (arms open wide) Remember, the Lord (point up) forgave you (point to self), so you must forgive others." Colossians 3:13 (Repeat)

We're all going to make mistakes. No one is perfect except Jesus. So, we should choose to forgive our friends when they mess up instead of looking for ways to get paybacks. This is how Jesus responds to us. He doesn't look to punish us every time we mess up. He forgives us and helps us to make better choices in the future. So, as followers of Jesus, let's be good at giving the gift of forgiveness.

Now let's all stand and sing one last song together.

### **Song**

*We Are Your People*

Okay, let's all say the Big Idea together one last time!

### **Slide: Big Idea**

We should forgive because Jesus has forgiven us. (Repeat)

### **Slide: Let's Pray**

*Pray and dismiss.*