



Bible Story Focus

I Don't Want to Miss a Thing
(Father and Older Brother) • Luke
15:21-32

Media Links

[Bible Story Video](#)

Worship Songs: [Starting Over](#) and
[Lift My Voice](#)

Check out [Studio 252](#) for more
resources

Memory Verse

Put up with one another. Forgive one
another if you are holding something
against someone. Forgive just as the
Lord forgave you.
Colossians 3:13 (NIRV)

Life App

Forgiveness—Deciding that
someone who has wronged you
doesn't have to pay.

Bottom Line

When you don't forgive, you miss out.

Basic Truth

I should treat others the way I want
to be treated.

Activity: Tic Tac Toe Tournament

What You Need: Tic-Tac-Toe grids, pencils

What You Do:

- Pair up and play a few rounds of Tic-Tac-Toe.
- Whoever LOSES from the pair stays in the “tournament” to go on to the next round.
- Continue for subsequent rounds, advancing only the losers each time until you have a final “winner.”

What You Say:

“Normally in Tic-Tac-Toe, the goal is to win! But in our tournament, losing was the goal. In our Bible story today, we heard about an older brother who lost out on something really awesome because he refused to forgive. Let's remember that even though sometimes forgiving another person can be hard, it's always the best option.”

Pray: “Heavenly Father, thank You for always offering forgiveness to us, just like the father in this story Jesus told. When we feel like holding onto anger like the older brother, would you please help us choose to forgive instead? We definitely need Your help to do that. We love and trust You, God. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.”

Bonus Activity: Memory Verse Building

What You Need: A Bible marked at Colossians 3:13, “Memory Verse Phrases” Activity Page, scissors

What You Do:

- Open the Bible to Colossians 3:13 and read it aloud together (Or each person could read it out loud).
- Give each child a set of “Memory Verse Phrases” and scissors.
- Instruct the kids to cut out the phrases, mix them up and then put them back in order from memory.
- Get creative – maybe tape them to a door, window or mirror to continue practicing each time you walk past it.

What You Say: “Forgiveness is important! And we know that's true because God is the ultimate forgiver! This verse is such a great one to remember always. Let's choose to forgive and fix the relationships with the people around us, with God's help. Because when you don't forgive, you miss out.”