



Live chat!

Pick a discussion starter. You have all month, so just one will do. Run out? Make some up that fit the theme of the month! (Oh! And turn off those devices! Live chat means just talking.)

- How does it feel when someone forgives us?
Why is forgiveness so hard?
What does it mean to hold a grudge?
How would you explain forgiveness to someone who has never heard of it?
Can you think of a time when you were forgiven?
Can you think of someone you need to forgive?

Double DaRE ya! The family challenge!

Are you up for the challenge? Determine as a family what the reward will be if you complete the challenge!

YOUR CHALLENGE: Forgiveness is the spiritual process of restoring what is broken in relationships. It's taking something that was broken and fixing it. As an object lesson on forgiveness, perhaps there is something broken in your house that has remained in that state for too long. A broken window? A messy room? A half-finished project? Time to work together as a family to restore it or fix it!

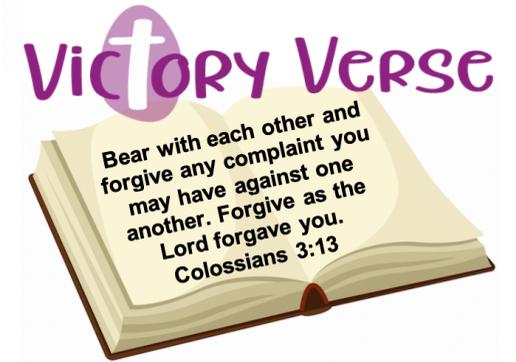
FORGIVENESS Monthly Motto: WE LOVE DO-OVERS Think about It

The best thing about a pencil is the eraser on the end. The best key on the keyboard is the delete button. One of the best inventions ever was the washing machine. Why? Because when we make a mistake, it's nice to be able to erase or delete it, and when we get dirty, nothing feels better than fresh clean clothes. Sometimes we call this a "do-over." The same is true in life. We make mistakes, but forgiveness is the eraser that allows us to start over. Everyone needs do-overs! Forgiveness is like a reset button. It allows relationships to reset and start over. We can forgive brothers and sisters, moms and dads, friends or anyone who has wronged us. Best of all, God forgives us. He gives us do-overs every day! That's why forgiveness is so special and important. Use this month's motto as often as you can: "We Love Do-Overs." When we give do-overs, we'll get them when we need them.

GOOFY Game

Name of the Game: Erase It! Needed: Paper and pencils, or a white board or chalk board is even better!

What you do: Write out the alphabet in large letters filling the paper or board. On a separate sheet, one person writes out a word - any word - but best to keep it to four to six letters. Hide that word. Next, each family member takes a turn asking if they can erase a particular letter. If the letter isn't in the mystery word, the person who chose it says, "Erase it!" and the guesser crosses it out or erases it. But if the letter they guess is in the word, they answer, "Nope!" And the guesser circles it. Continue taking turns eliminating letters. The first person to guess the word wins! Keep in mind, the letters will be scrambled and some letters may be repeated. If every letter that isn't in the word is crossed out and no one has guessed it yet, continue guessing until someone gets it. The winner gets to choose the next word! (Note: the word is written down to prevent changing the word and to reveal the answer.)



As a family, memorize the Victory Verse this month. We should learn to forgive others just as God has forgiven us.

Diggin' DEEPER...

The Bible has lots to say about forgiving. Here are some super Bible verses you may want to dig into this month as you learn how to forgive as God forgives.

- Luke 17:3-4
Ephesians 4:31-32
Psalm 103:12
Mark 11:25
Isaiah 43:25
I John 1:9

Make it count!

Like it never happened! When God forgives us, it is with complete forgiveness. God says our sins are as far away as the East is from the West. That is pretty far! When God forgives it is like it never happened. That's how complete it is. We get to move forward without guilt or shame. God says we are to forgive as He forgave us. That means, when we forgive others it also has to be complete - like it never happened! This means that after we forgive someone for something, we never bring it up again. Sometimes trust needs to be restored, but we don't keep reminding someone of what they did. If we keep bringing it up, did we really forgive? So, make the decision that when you forgive, you will forgive like God forgave you - completely - and that you won't ever mention it again. THAT is total forgiveness!