The Unforgiving Servant Lesson Plan – GOF September 2017

(5 Minutes) Opening Prayer – Pray an Our Father together – hand out cardstock prayer cards

(10 minutes) Introduction – This year, we will learn about some of the PARABLES of Jesus’. What is a PARABLE?

Parable – A story told by Jesus that uses familiar situations to teach a lesson

This month’s Parable is called the “Unforgiving Servant”. Does anyone know what it means to forgive?

 (stop feeling angry or resentful toward someone for something they did to you that was not right or a mistake.) Then UNFORGIVENESS would be ….

Before we hear and see the parable, I want to show you a short clip of a movie. I want you to tell me if the character is forgiving or unforgiving!

(5 minutes) Video: Despicable Me Clip

Fluffy prize

What do you think?

Wow, when somebody made Gru mad, he got even, didn’t he!? And in a movie like that, it’s kind of funny. But the truth is, that’s not how Jesus taught us to live. Jesus taught us to forgive people.

 (10 minutes) Now for THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT!

This story teaches us why we should forgive. See, there’s a king in this story, and he’s like God! There’s a servant in this story, and he’s like us. As you listen, see if you can figure out why the king made the servant pay back:

Story – Show Illustrations while reading the story.

[http://w](http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/unforgiving-servant/)

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So did anybody figure out why the king got so mad at the servant? (Let kids respond.) Yes, the servant was forgiven by the king: he didn’t have to pay back the millions of silver he owed. But then, he turned around and demanded to get paid back a hundred silver coins from another guy. If the KING could forgive the servant owing him a million dollars, the servant should forgive a hundred!

WE FORGIVE BECAUSE WE’VE BEEN FORGIVEN – Let’s listen to the pray we said to start our time off – The Our Father! See if you hear anything about forgiveness… (recite prayer slowly)

So if the king is like God and the servant is like us, why should WE forgive? (Let kids guess.) Well, we are like that servant. God has forgiven us for disobeying him. He sent Jesus to take our punishment — we are completely free. God chose to be patient with us because he loves us.

**Matthew 7:12 - (The Golden Rule) -** “So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

# Ephesians 4:32 – “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

(15 minutes) CRAFT – Make a forgiveness heart

If time allows – show a Modern Day version - <https://vimeo.com/19774365>

Definitions:

Debt – Something that is owed or due

Grace – God’s help or favor

Lesson – I cannot forgive on my own… We must pray pray pray so that we have the help and strength and heart to forgive others! God gives us the GRACE!!