

Family Page



Here is a little project to help your family remember that Jesus always forgives us and to remind you how much better you can be. First, using the heart pattern below, cut out one paper heart for each member of the family. On one side, write or draw a mean or selfish thing you have done. Now turn your hearts over and draw a "change of heart." For example, on one side you might write, "I fought with Jimmy" or "I was selfish." For your change of heart, you can write, "I will play nicely" or "I will share." Hang your hearts on a small tree branch. Then, for a closing prayer, you can set up a tree branch and say the following prayer together, using what you have written on your hearts for your intercessions.

Family Prayer for Forgiveness

Have someone read this week's gospel message (Matthew 18:21-35) aloud.

Response: Thank you, Jesus, for your Word.

Leader: Let us now pray as Jesus prayed:

All: (Say the Lord's Prayer together.)

Intercessions

Leader: For the times we have fought with one another, let us pray.

All: Jesus, forgive us.

Leader: For the times we refused to share, let us pray.

All: Jesus, forgive us.

Leader: For the times we have disobeyed, let us pray.

All: Jesus, forgive us.

(Continue until all items on the hearts have been included, then conclude with the following prayer.)

Act of Contrition

O my God, I am sorry for my sins. I know I should love you above all things. Help me to do better and to avoid anything that will lead me to sin in the future. Amen



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Answers to rebus:
S + FORK + I - SKI + GIANT - ANT
+ P + VINE - PIN = FORGIVE
Answer to A Secret Love Note:
WE MUST FORGIVE EACH OTHER
OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

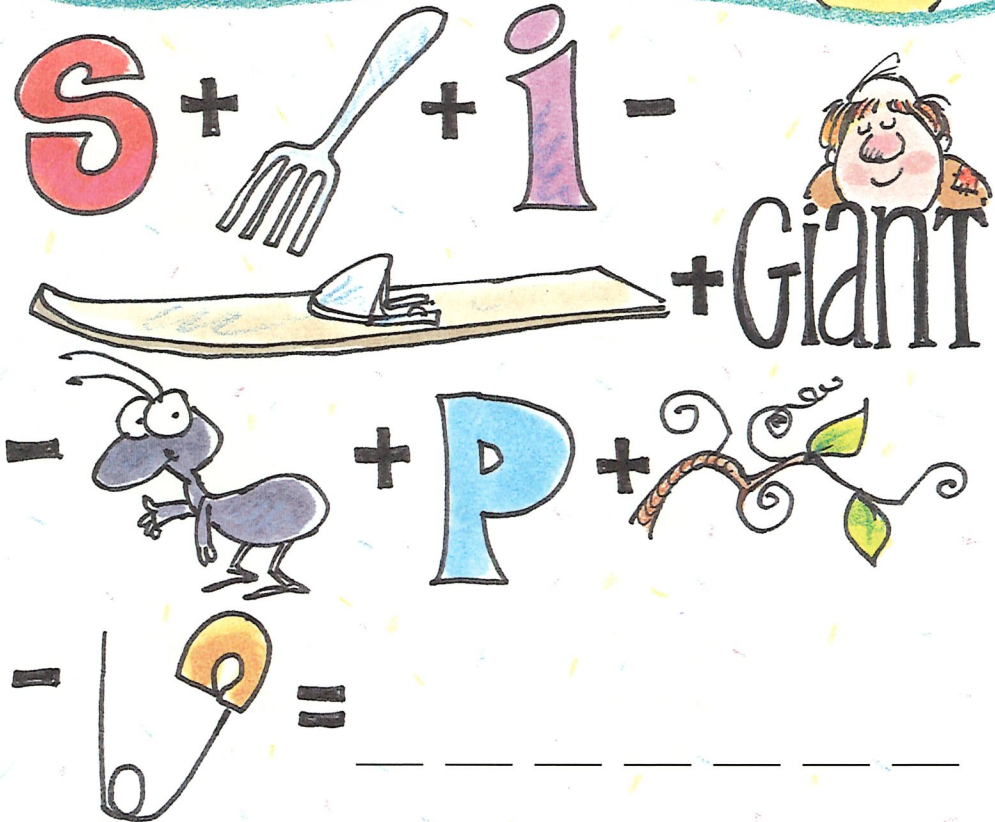
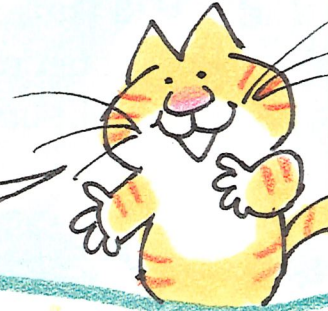


explaining GOD'S WORD

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) † Matthew 18:21-35 † September 13, 2026

What Does Jesus Want You To Do?

Solve the rebus to see what Jesus asks you to do when others hurt you.



Patty Learns About FORGIVENESS

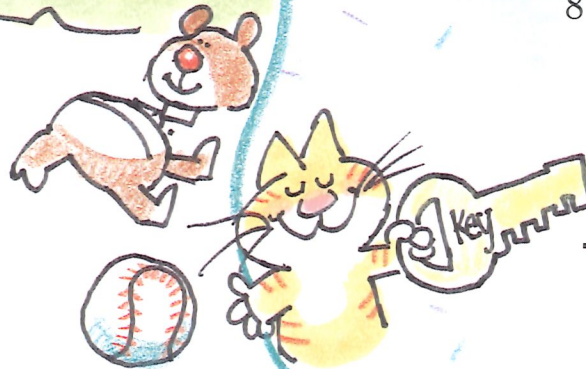
Patty is a little girl just about your age. One day she got into trouble. She was playing catch with her friends, and she threw the ball too hard. BANG! SHATTER! Patty's ball smashed the window of her neighbor's house. She went straight home and up to her room. She didn't even tell her parents.

The neighbor came to Patty's house. He was very angry about the window. Patty's mom called her into the room. Patty's mom was ashamed! Patty's dad was very sad.

"I'm sorry," Patty said to the neighbor. "I didn't mean to break your window." Then Patty added, "I'll never do it again."

The neighbor forgave Patty, and everyone was happy again.

Later, Patty's friend Lisa came to play. Lisa broke one of Patty's toys. "I'm sorry, Patty," Lisa said. "I didn't mean to break your toy."



Patty remembered the neighbor who'd forgiven her the day before. She turned to Lisa and said, "It's all right, Lisa. I forgive you."

Jesus said if you want to be forgiven, you must learn to forgive others.

A Secret Love Note

Here is the message Jesus wants you to remember this week. Using the key, write the correct letters above the code numbers, and you will have your answer.

17 16 15 4 14 13

12 8 11 10 9 7 16

16 6 5 3 8 13 3 16 11

8 7 16 11 6 2 1

8 7 16 11 6 10 6 9 2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
D	N	H	U	C	A	V	O	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
I	G	R	F	T	S	M	E	W