



MARCH 29, 2020

OKC KIDS ONLINE EXPERIENCE AT HOME PARENT PACKET

WELCOME PARENTS!

We're excited to have you dive in and teach your kids some things that they have been learning this month in our Kids Ministry. For your convenience, this document is divided into two separate parts.

WHAT'S IN THIS PACKET?

- **A Safe Place to Land: A Way to Connect with Your Kids, All Ages**
- **A Guide For 2 Years Old's - Kindergarten:** go to pages 3-5
- **A Guide For Elementary (1st - 5th grade):** go to pages 6-8

OVERVIEW | A FEW THINGS TO KNOW

- There is a section at the top of both parts that talks about the Bible Story Focus, Memory Verse, Key Question, Bottom Line, and Basic Truth. These are ways for you to understand the themes for the month that your kids have already been learning.
- After that, there are instructions in a certain order that help you make the best out of the time with your kids. Just do the best you can and use this time to connect with your kids!
- There are additional resources and worship videos on our website if you are wanting to continue to have fun with your child after you are done with the packet!

I am so excited for this time for you and your child(ren) to grow as a family and learn things together. If you have any questions at all please text me (Hanna Nassar) at 813-310-7498 and I can help you figure it out!

TO ALL PARENTS:

Sometime this week (if not right now) try to find a time to just sit with your kids and be fully present. Kids don't always say what they're feeling, sometimes they act out, get angry, or are more sensitive than normal. Try to find a time with your child to snuggle with them or sit with them and let them sit in their emotions fully. Try to have no agenda, and try not to change how they're feeling, but simply let them sit and sit with them. There is so much going on right now and having a space for you and your kids to be present together can be is important- for them and for you!

A SAFE PLACE TO LAND

By Sarah Bragg

My oldest daughter is 10, and for the past year and a half, she spends most of her free time at the farm. She has always had a great affinity for horses. When she isn't riding, she's working at the farm—cleaning stalls, catching horses in the field, or bathing them.

Normally, she's all smiles after the farm. But recently, I arrived to pick her up, and as she sat down in the car, she broke down in tears. The work had been hard. She had to oil saddles for over two hours. It had to be redone and took up all her time—which meant no time to ride. I think it was a combination of exhaustion, disappointment, and embarrassment. Unmet expectations at any age can sometimes leave us in tears.

I normally don't handle emotions well. I like to breeze right on past them with quick fixes. And often times, I'm running at full speed between work obligations and family needs. So I'm not usually in a place to sit still with their emotions. But for once, I was in a restful, ready place to meet her sadness with gentleness. Handling your child's emotions isn't easy, and it is most definitely exhausting and never convenient. But in that moment, she needed a safe place to land. No fixing. Just safety. Gentleness.

So, she sat in the seat beside me and cried. And I sat in the seat beside her and listened and offered empathy. And

then when we arrived home, I sat with her while she ate dinner late. And then instead of homework, we played a few rounds of the game, "Speed."

That night as we said goodnight, I asked her the question I've been asking each night: **"What are you thankful for? What made you happy today?"** Her usual answer involved a horse, but this time she thought about it for a minute. And then she looked at me and said, "You." It wasn't a trite answer. It wasn't a generic answer. I knew it was true. That night, I showed up. I gave her what she needed from me. I gave her a gentle place to land.

When we give our kids our presence, we are choosing to be a gentle place for them to land. Because here's what I know to be true: You can't multitask presence. You can't be thinking about your agenda while trying to comfort a child. It never works well.

You can't prevent your children from feeling disappointed, sad, embarrassed or exhausted; but you can show up in those moments and be fully present, and safe.

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and parenting resources, visit:

ParentCue.org



2 YEARS OLD'S - KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

MARCH 29, 2020



Bible Story Focus: When I follow Jesus, I can love everyone.

Love One Another • *John 13:34-35*

Memory Verse: "'Come and follow me,' Jesus said." Matthew 4:19, NIV

Key Question: Who can you follow?

Bottom Line: I can follow Jesus.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

1. STORY TIME

****play video, located on the website, Online Experience page, March 29th****

After the Story:

- Ask kids follow up questions about the day's story
- Ask kids what their favorite part of the story was

2. CRAFT - LOVE LIKE JESUS

What You Need: "Love Like Jesus" Activity Page (**pg.4**), BAND-AIDs, stickers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the Activity Page (**pg.4**)

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page, a BAND-AID, and one of each of the stickers. Encourage the child to place all of the stickers and the BAND-AID around the picture of Jesus. If you don't have a BAND-AID or stickers, that's okay! Just color the activity with your child and talk about the story. If you have stickers, just be creative with what stickers they use and what that could mean! It doesn't have to be the exact stickers listed.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's love like Jesus!"

During the Activity: "Here is a picture of Jesus. (*Hold up.*) Let's put a BAND-AID on the picture to show that we can love one another by helping them when they are hurt. (*Do activity.*) Now let's place a food sticker on the picture to show that we can love someone by giving them food. (*Continue activity.*) Great job! Now we can place a toy sticker (*hold up*) and a heart sticker (*hold up*) on the picture to show that we can love one another by sharing."

After the Activity: "Awesome job! We can follow Jesus by showing love to one another. **Who can you follow? [Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus!**"



I can love like Jesus.

Love One Another • *John 13:34-35*

3. PRAY

PARENT: "Our Bible story today was about loving one another the way Jesus loves us. That's a lot of love, because Jesus loves us A LOT!"

"When we follow Jesus, we get to see that He loves people by forgiving and sharing and helping and being kind. Jesus loves us by being the best friend ever!"

"Hmmm. That means when we follow Jesus, we can love everyone the way Jesus loves us. That's awesome! And tell me: **Who can you follow?"**

CHILDREN and PARENT: *[Bottom Line]* **"I can follow Jesus!"**

PARENT: "You got it! You CAN follow Jesus! And we have been learning a Bible verse that will help us remember that Jesus wants us to follow Him. Let's say it one time together and then anyone who wants to try and say it can give it a try!"

CHILDREN and PARENT: *"Come (motion toward yourself with hand) and follow me (march)," Jesus said (hands to mouth like yelling), Matthew 4:19." (Open hands like a book.)*

PARENT: "You sound awesome!"

"Okay, you can sit back down, and when it's your turn to say the Bible verse, you can stand up and say it.

(Say each child's name. Make sure to give each child the opportunity to say the verse on his own.)

"I am so proud of you, [child's name]!"

(Give a high five to each child after they say the verse.)

"Now it's time to pray.

"Today we are going to make a list of ways we can be a good family member/friend and love people the way Jesus loves us. Sound good? *(Pause.)* Okay, when I say your name, tell me one way you can be a good family member/friend and love people the way Jesus loves you.

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"This is such a great list! Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

PARENT: "Dear God, thank You for giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank You that He loves us and shows us how to love others. Help us to follow Jesus and love people the way He loved us, even when it's hard. Help us to *(read the list the children made)* so we can love everyone the way Jesus loves us, even when we don't feel like it. In Jesus' name, amen."

ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM

MARCH 29, 2020



I Don't Want to Miss a Thing

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

Bottom Line: When you don't forgive, you miss out.

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

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

1. MEMORY VERSE PRACTICE + BIBLE STORY

Have kids stand up and practice memory verse as a group (see how loud they can say it, how quietly, in an accent, etc)

What you say: "We are SO excited for our morning together. Before we get started, everybody stand up! We are going to practice this month's memory verse! I'm going to say it once first and then I want us all to say it a few times together!"

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)

******* PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON OUR WEBSITE ONLINE EXPERIENCE PAGE, MARCH 29TH*******

2. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read this week's story from the Bible: Luke 15:21-32

- What stands out to you from this week's reading?
- What do you think God wants to teach us through these verses?
- How can we apply some of these things to our own lives?

3. ACTIVITY - PARTY TIME!

What You Need: Party hats (pg. 8); Bible; treat or toys to share (if possible)

What You Do:

- Encourage the kids to wear their party hats (if you don't have party hats at home, an easy print-out to make one is on pg. 8. Just print it out and glue/staple/tape the sides together! They can decorate them if they want but don't have to)
- Set the treats or toys in the center of the table (if you want to, this part is not necessary), but do not allow the kids to touch them yet.
- Talk about the choices the older brother in our story made today.
 - How did the father react when his son returned? (*He forgave him and threw a huge party to celebrate his son's return*)
 - Where was the older brother when the younger son returned? (*Working in the field*)

- oHow did the older brother react when he found out that the party was for his younger brother who'd returned home? (*He was angry*)
- oWhat did the older brother say to the father? (*"All these years I have worked, I've obeyed. You've never thrown me a party."*)
- oWhy do you think the older brother was SO mad? Can you relate to this?
- oWhy do you think the father celebrated in such a big way?
- oPass out the treats or toys for the kids to enjoy (if you have some).
- oAs they finish, collect their hats to be used during the prayer activity.

What You Say:

"I can relate to the older brother in this story. He's right; he was the one who had stayed, the one who worked hard and honored his dad. But he missed out. Because he thought it was more important to be right than to forgive, he missed the opportunity to celebrate his brother's return. Sometimes we do the same thing. We want to make a point or prove that we're right and the other person is wrong. But in the end, your friendship is WAY more important than winning an argument. We need to offer forgiveness when someone apologizes and means it. Because **[Bottom Line] when you don't forgive, you miss out.**"

4. PRAYER

What You Need: Party hats from earlier

What You Do:

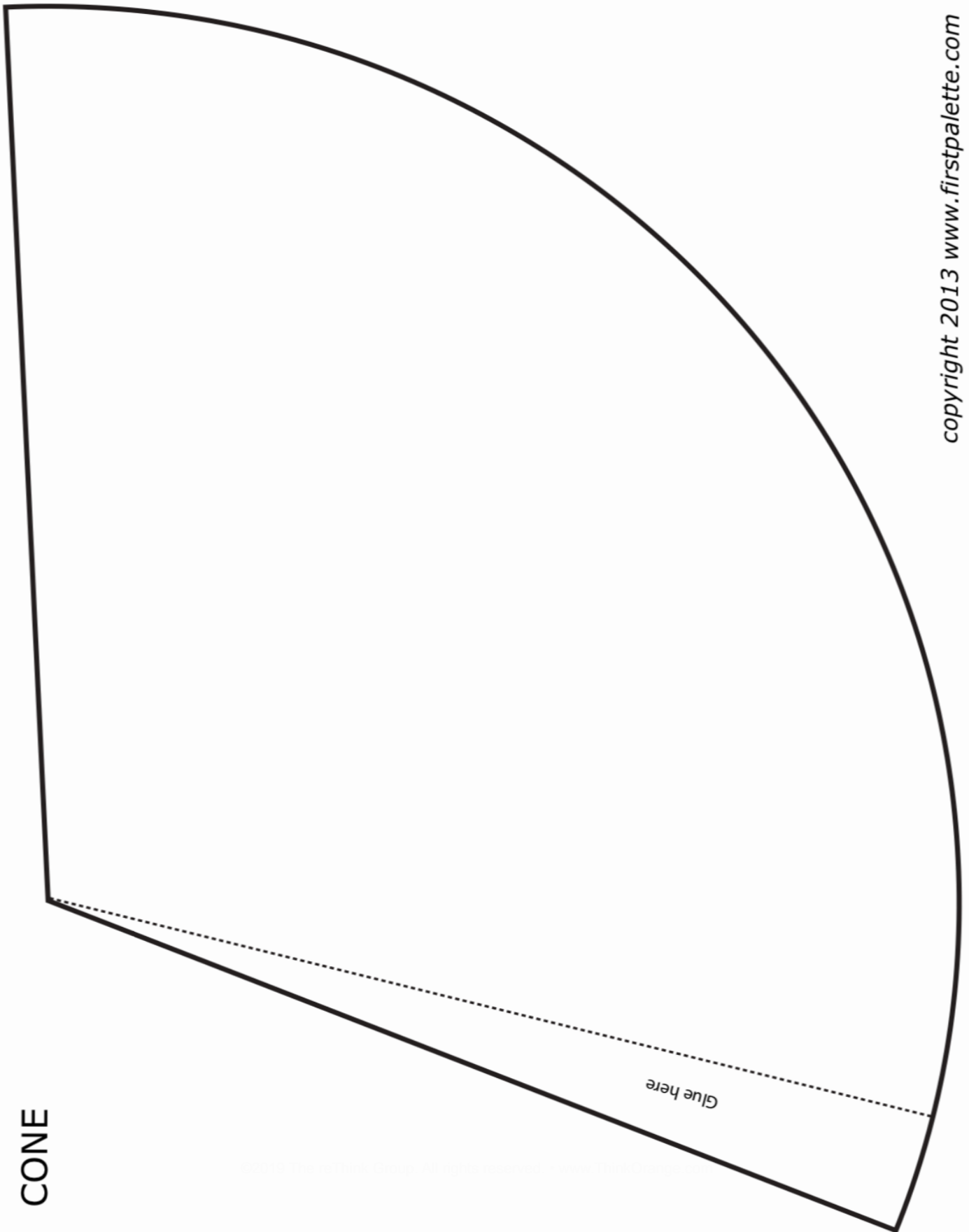
- Pass out the party hats to the kids.
- Close in prayer as the kids hold their party hats.

What You Say:

"These hats are a good reminder that **[Bottom Line] when you don't forgive, you miss out.** But forgiving someone when we've been hurt—even when the other person is clearly sorry—is still hard. Let's pray and ask God to help us forgive so we don't miss out this week.

"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."

Print out this party hat template and let the kids color them or decorate them as they wish! Print one out for yourself too! Then Staple/Glue/Tape the sides together, and you're done!



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Glue here