

WALT: understand Jesus' Good News and how Christians live

Think about these quotations:

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

"Greater love has no one than this, that they lay down their life for their friends."

"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death."

What do you think that each one means?

Do you agree with what they say?

WALT: understand Jesus' Good News and how Christians live

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

4 Love is patient, love is kind.

It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

5 It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

What do you like about this quote? Write two things on your sheet.

Who do you think that it is written for?

It is a poem written by Paul and is the most read Bible passage at Christian weddings throughout the world.

Why do you think that is?

Session 2

Do you think that it is helpful to a newly married couple?

WALT: understand Jesus' Good News and how Christians live

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. ³⁷ And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, ³⁸ and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

⁴¹ "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴ Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷ Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." ⁴⁸ And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹ Then those who were at table with him began to say among^[a] themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (Luke 7:36-50)

*For Jesus,
love and
forgiveness
go together.*

*What does
this parable
about the
two debtors
teach us? On
your sheet
explain what
you think
that it
means.*

Session 2

WALT: *understand Jesus' Good News and how Christians live*

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."^u

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold^u was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.^u He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

(Matthew 18:21-35)

What does this parable about the unforgiving servant teach us? On your sheet explain what you think that it means.

Session 2

WALT: understand Jesus' Good News and how Christians live
 Read each of the scenarios below and then mark out of ten how difficult you think it is to show forgiveness.

<p>A. Sharon borrowed her friend Daisy's new i-Pod for the afternoon, with permission of course, but her little brother, running round, trod on it. The i-Pod still works, but it has a big scratch on the front. 'I'm really sorry, Daisy' says Sharon 'it was an accident'. I half killed David. Please can you forgive me?' Daisy looked at the long scratch on the i-Pod. It had been all shiny before...</p> <p>What should Daisy say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>	<p>B. Harun wanted to have his birthday at Alton Towers and his dad promised they would go and take three friends. But that was before Dad lost his job. Two weeks before the birthday, Dad sat Harun down and said, 'I'm really sorry, son, but we just can't manage Alton Towers this year. How about the cinema and a pizza supper? Maybe next time, if things go well...</p> <p>What should Harun say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>	
<p>C. Lois wanted to win the 200m race a bit too much. As they were getting ready to start, she looked across at Sharmila, the fastest in the school. She spoke quietly, but in the voice of a bully to the tall girl: 'I'll kick you in if you win today.' The gun went off and Sharmila was quicker. But in the last quarter of the race she slowed up, looking tired. Lois won by 3 metres. 'Hah, loser' she said to Sharmila.</p> <p>What should Sharmila say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>	<p>D. Wayne and Stephen always enjoyed being rivals: Wayne was the best defender, and Stephen the best striker in school. They liked trying to beat each other. But this particular match, as Stephen jumped for a header to score a winner, Wayne was a bit late. Stephen smashed his head and was knocked out for 10- seconds. When he came round, worried faces looked down on him. Wayne's was the most worried: 'I'm really sorry' he yelled...</p> <p>What should Stephen say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>	<p>E. Joe and Jon were twins. Always someone to play with – or to fight with. At Easter, they both had big eggs from their mum. Joe's was finished by Monday, but Jon saved his. But when he did open it, he found someone else had got there first. All the lower part, invisible from outside the box, had been eaten. He knew who he thought it was, and when he got Joe in a headlock, he asked him: 'Did you eat my egg?' Joe grinned, and wriggled. 'What if I did? It was very nice' he said.</p> <p>What should Jon say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>
<p>F. The soldiers were only obeying orders when they took the young man and killed him by crucifixion. The crowd gasped as the nails were hammered into his wrists. Then the cross was lifted up, and dropped into a hole in the ground. Jesus had always preached that people should be forgiving, no matter what. As he hung there, the crowd waited to see if he would curse the soldiers, as most victims of crucifixion did...</p> <p>What should Jesus say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>	<p>G. Corrie and her family helped Jews to escape from the Nazis during WWII. She and her family were captured and taken to a concentration camp. Both her father and sister died in the camp. Years later, Corrie met the German guard who was in charge of her family's treatment whilst they were in the camp.</p> <p>What should Corrie say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>	<p>H. They had promised one of them would meet her, but mum was really late, and dad was even later. Chantelle stood outside the club for about 25 minutes, wondering if they were dead, or gone on holiday without her. Then both of them arrived from opposite ends of the street at the same time, calling out to her: 'Sorry I'm late, darling, are you OK?'</p> <p>What should Chantelle say next? Difficulty of forgiving: [? /10]</p>

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How do you think that Jesus reacted when he was crucified?

Jesus prayed for the people who crucified him,

"Father forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."

What does this show about the kind of person Jesus was?

How would the people at the cross have responded to hearing this?

Session 2

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Design a poster to show what Jesus taught about forgiveness. Use colour illustrations.

Refer to the passage on love, the parables and the death of Jesus for examples to help you.

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

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The Parable of the Two Debtors
(Luke 7:36-50).

The Parable of the Unforgiving
Servant (Matthew 18:21-35).

Jesus said, "Father forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."

Luke 23:34