

# FORGIVENESS CIRCLE TIME: YEAR: 3/4

## **Virtue 8: Forgiveness**

**Forgiveness is to let go of hurt feelings and make a new start**

### **Knowledge:**

Know how to cope with some friendship problems.

### **Skills:**

Recognise that actions have consequences for themselves and others.

### **Attitudes:**

Consider why understanding and respect are important in relationships.

### **Signs of Living the Virtue:**

I accept God's forgiveness

I can forgive

I accept forgiveness from others

I have the courage to give others and myself the courage to have a new start.

I know that with God's love I can change.

I understand that saying sorry is one way of making amends.

### **Rules:**

We listen to each other.

We do not say or do anything that would hurt another person.

We signal when we want to say something.

We may say pass.

If a game involves touch we may sit and watch before making a decision to join in.

### **Skills - Thinking, Looking, Listening, Speaking, Concentrating:**

Throughout Circle Time it is vital that teachers praise children for using the above skills.

### **Step 1. Game**

Use a picture – such as this – <https://radianceonline.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/10-good-thief-2.jpg>

Ask the children to think about both thieves. Which one understood the need for forgiveness. How was Jesus a role model in this story.

### **Step 2. Round**

Ask the children what forgiveness means to them. Are there some things they would find more difficult to forgive than others? How might someone show forgiveness?

### **Trigger statement:**

Forgiveness means...

### **Step 3. Open Forum**

To support children new to Circle Time the teacher can prepare a simple role-play of a child asking for help.

I need help because me and my friend fell out really badly...she told someone something I had told her in secret...we're back friends now but I'm finding it hard to forgive her. I want to but I just don't seem to be able to forget what she did because it really hurt me. I really trusted her.

**The children respond** "Would it help if I?" or  
"Would it help if you?" or  
"Would it help if we?"

[As soon as you think your class is ready children in class can request help from their peer group]

**Step 4. Celebration**

Ask the children to look around the circle and to nominate or say thank you to someone who they feel shows support and kindness to others.

**Step 5. Ending Ritual –  
Send around the sign of Peace  
Peace be with you**