

**PREPARE YOUR HEART**

God sent Jesus to die for us sinners and offers us grace daily as we continue to struggle with sin. Praise God for his mercy. Ask God to help you show grace to others.

**Bible Exploration & Award Aims:**

Club members will:

- understand biblical guidelines for handling angry situations.
- want to do their part to repair a damaged friendship with God's help.

**Scripture:**

Acts 13:13; 15:36-40; James 1:19; Luke 17:3; Colossians 4:10; background: Acts 13:1-11

**Bible Memory:**

review verses learned in unit

**Supplies:**

**GET READY**—tape; for every two members: picture from computer or magazine showing pair or group of people, small bag

**1st ACTIVITY AWARD**—masks from Meeting 7; optional: costume box

**BIBLE EXPLORATION & AWARD**—supplies for Focus of your choice (Target Bounce—ball, large wastebasket; Bubble Trouble—large glass mixing bowl, water, measuring cup, dishwashing liquid, whisk)

**BIBLE MEMORY**—your choice

**2nd ACTIVITY AWARD**—hiking supplies

**GAMES**—your choice

**PRAYER**—optional: words to songs chosen

**WEB HELP**

For tips on helping your club members develop, reference the leadership resources available online at [www.pioneerclubs.org](http://www.pioneerclubs.org).

**Next Unit's Preparation:**

Select and review the unit you will use next.

# Anger and Forgiveness

**GET READY** 5-10 MINUTES

**Do Ahead:**

Gather supplies. Tear each picture into 12-15 pieces and put them in a bag.

Let club members form pairs. Give each pair a bag of picture pieces. **Work together to tape your picture together. It doesn't have to be perfect.** Let teams work.

**It's easier to fix torn-up pictures than torn-up friendships. We'll talk more about that later in this meeting.** Open with prayer.

**MASKS ACTIVITY AWARD**

20-30 MINUTES



**Do Ahead:**

Choose or create a simple skit for Masks requirement 3, "Act out a story" (handbook p. 81). Or plan to let club members create their own story. Gather supplies.

Do requirement 3 together.

**BIBLE EXPLORATION & AWARD** 15-25 MINUTES



**Do Ahead:**

Familiarize yourself with Bible award requirement 4, "Forgiving" (handbook p. 17) and this Bible Exploration. Choose and prepare one of the Focus options. Gather supplies.

**Review**

• How did you do this week with gossip?

**Focus** (choose 1 option)

*Option 1—Target Bounce*

Place a wastebasket against a wall. Have club members stand 8-10 feet away. **Try to make the ball bounce once and then land in the wastebasket. You'll have three chances. If you make a basket, we'll cheer for you.** Let club members try.

Cheer for those who succeed. **Would some of you like to try again?** Let others keep trying until all have been cheered.

- **Why do you think I gave you another chance after you failed?** (Thought they could succeed, knew they were trying hard, like them, etc.)
- **If a friend fails you or hurts you, why might you give him or her another chance to be friends?**

*Option 2—Bubble Trouble*

Have club members gather around a bowl containing at least 4 cups of water. Ask someone to add just one drop of dish liquid. Let someone else use the whisk to stir it in. When bubbles form, ask:

- **How is this bowl of soapy water like two friends saying angry words?** (They stir each other up, create trouble, etc.)

Let the bubbles go away, and then have another club member add a squirt of dishwashing liquid and stir. Repeat so others can add squirts. Discuss:

- **What happens when you leave the bowl alone?** (Bubbles go away.)
- **When you add more soap?** (More bubbles form, don't go away as easily.)
- **How might that apply to angry words?** (If one person stops saying angry words, emotions can settle down; more angry words can start an argument again; the more angry words, the harder to stop arguing; etc.)

**Study Scripture**

**Let's look at a story in the Bible about some angry words and a friend who needed another chance.** Open your Bible to Acts 13. **Barnabas and Paul were the first missionaries. Their young helper was John, also called Mark. They sailed to a place called Cyprus to preach about Jesus. An enemy started making trouble, but God struck the bad man blind! Then Barnabas, Paul, and Mark sailed to a place called Pamphylia to preach. But suddenly Mark quit and went home! Paul and Barnabas kept traveling and then returned to Antioch.** Read Acts 15:36-40.

**Let's have two people act out what Paul and Barnabas might have said when they argued about Mark.** (Paul might have

said Mark couldn't be trusted; Barnabas would give Mark another chance; etc.)

Read James 1:19. Have club members keep their Bibles open to that spot.

- **Why are the ideas in this verse important in an angry situation?** (If you get angry fast, the argument keeps going; if you listen, you can learn what really happened; if you slow down, you don't say things you'll regret; etc.)

Listen as I read Luke 17:3. Do so. **"Rebuke" means to point out something that's wrong. "Brother" in this verse can also mean a friend.**

- **What can we learn from James 1:19 about how to point out something that's wrong or tell a friend how we feel?** (Don't explode; think about what you're going to say instead of just blurting it out; be ready to listen; etc.)
- **Why might pointing out when something's wrong and telling how you feel be good?** (The friend might not know you are upset; you're being honest; the friend can see your side; etc.)

Have club members turn to page 17 in their handbooks, requirement 4, "Forgiving," part 1, "Learn to fix a broken friendship." **Let's finish what the person says in the first cartoon frame.** Explain how to use "I" statements to let a friend know how you feel ("I really felt hurt when you did that"; "I didn't like you making fun of me"; etc.). Explain that, when you start comments with "you" ("You really messed up"; "You hurt me"; etc.), it's easier for the friend to get mad.

- Reread Luke 17:3. **What does "repent" mean?** (Be sorry, want to change.)
- **Fill in the friend's reply in the second cartoon.** ("I'm sorry," etc.)

- **Jesus told us to forgive. What do you think "forgive" means?** (Not staying angry, not punishing, letting the person be your friend again, not bringing up the wrong over and over, etc.)

**Finish what the person says in the third cartoon frame.** ("Okay, I forgive you," etc.)

**Let's find out what happened to Paul and Mark. Here's what Paul wrote later to his friend Timothy in Colossians 4:10. Let me read it to you.**

- **What can you tell from this verse about how Paul felt about Mark then?** (Paul must have forgiven him and thought well of him, because Paul asked the people to welcome him.)
- **Why do you think forgiveness is important?** (It fixes bad feelings; it

helps people have a good relationship again; God tells us to forgive; etc.)

**Apply**

**Discipleship Challenge**

**Think of a way that a friend has hurt you or you have hurt a friend recently.** Allow time. Have club members turn to requirement 4, part 2, "Do your part." **Find something you need to do for a friend this week and circle it, or write in your own idea. Ask God to help. Forgiveness doesn't come naturally, but we can do it with God's help.**

**Salvation Challenge**

**It's hard to forgive someone who hurt us. But did you know that we hurt God? Every time we sin or choose our way instead of his, we hurt him terribly. Yet he loves us and wants to give us another chance! Your relationship with God can be repaired if you are sorry about your sins and want to change.** Explain about forgiveness and salvation through Jesus.

Say you will pray aloud once and then pray again, and anyone who wants to repair the broken relationship with God can repeat the prayer silently or softly after you. Encourage club members who pray the prayer or have questions to let you know before the end of the meeting. (Check the Pioneer Clubs online store at [www.pioneerclubs.org](http://www.pioneerclubs.org) or the catalog for salvation and follow-up resources.)

**Dear God, thank you so much / for loving me even though I sin and hurt you. / Thank you for offering me forgiveness through Jesus. / I believe that he died on the cross / to pay the penalty for my sins. / Please forgive my sins. / Please come into my life / and help me learn to live the way you want me to live. / In Jesus' name, amen.**

**BIBLE MEMORY** 8-10 MINUTES

Review verses learned in this unit.

**HIKER ACTIVITY AWARD**

20-30 MINUTES



**Do Ahead:**

Plan to take the second hike for Hiker require-

ment 2, "Go hiking" (handbook p. 83). **Finalize plans. Hand out permission slips if you haven't already. Be ready to discuss requirement 5, "Let God show the way."**

Go on the second hike, doing the two activities from requirement 2 that you chose. Discuss requirement 5.

**GAMES** (OPTIONAL)

Choose games from pages 78-79.

**AWARD CELEBRATION**

**Do Ahead:**

Invite parents or friends to this part of the meeting. Order Being a Friend Bible Awards, Masks Activity Awards, Nature Fun Activity Awards and Hiker Activity Awards for club members who have completed the unit requirements. *Options:*

- Plan to present a skit using masks you made.
- Plan to use the devotional "Masks" from Pioneer Clubs' *Talks That Teach* (item #2725).

Hand out awards. Lead in applauding club members' efforts. Do any optional activities you chose.

**PRAYER** 5-10 MINUTES

**Do Ahead:**

Choose one or two songs about forgiveness and salvation. Gather supplies.

**It's because of God's love that we can learn to love and forgive others! Let's use music to thank him for forgiving us.** After singing, close in prayer.

**LEADER REFLECTION**

- Do club members seem to agree or disagree with the idea of forgiving friends?
- How can you help them realize that only God can help us forgive people who hurt us?