

PARENT FLYER LESSON 5

Lesson Goal: The children learned that it is better to show mercy than to make people suffer the consequences of their actions.

Main Point: Disciples of Jesus Show Mercy!

Memory Verse: "Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." Colossians 3:12 (NLT)

Our Bible story this week was taken from Matthew, chapter 18. In this story, Jesus told a parable about a servant who borrowed the equivalent of millions of dollars from the king. One day the king called in the debt and the servant had to pay back the full amount, or be thrown in jail. The servant pleaded with the king and the king wiped away the servant's debt and let him go. The servant then went and found a man who owed him the equivalent of thousands of dollars. He grabbed this man by the throat and demanded immediate payment. The man couldn't pay back what he owed, so the servant had the man thrown in prison. When the king, who had forgiven the servant of millions, found out how the servant had refused to show mercy, he became furious. He brought the servant before him and accused him of being evil for not showing a small amount of mercy after he had been shown a great deal of mercy. The king then had the first servant thrown into prison until the debt could be paid. Just like the king in the story, God shows mercy to us and expects us to show mercy to each other as well.

On stage, despite recent victories, Rock and Scooter were still in last place in the overall competition at the X-Factor games. Normally, the last place team is eliminated halfway through the competition. However, the officials decided to show mercy and allow Rock and Scooter to stay in the competition. During the snowboard race, another racer accidentally bumped into Scooter and Scooter decided to have the guy kicked out of the X-Factor games. Rock convinced Scooter to show mercy because they had been shown mercy by the officials.

Showing mercy isn't always easy. This week we wanted to remind your children that we are expected to show mercy because God has already shown us a great deal of mercy by sending His Son who gives us forgiveness and takes our sins away. Remind your children that true disciples of Jesus show mercy.

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