

# Why Should I?

Key Word: **Forgiveness**

Key Verse: "... forgive your brother or sister from your heart." *Matthew 18:35a*

Jamie and Ruth were best friends, or at least they always had been since they met in pre-school. They liked to do the same things and play the same games and eat the same foods. Jamie's mom had noticed that Ruth had not been coming over for about a week, and Jamie seemed sad and lost. Jamie's mom finally asked her why Ruth had not been coming over.

Jamie frowned. "I hate Ruth," she cried.

"But why," asked her mom, "what happened?"

"It's all Ruth's fault. Remember that glass snow globe Grandma and Grandpa brought me from their trip to Niagara Falls? The one that lights up at night and makes me think of going there with them when I turn it on at night? Well, Ruth was tossing it in the air and I asked her to stop, but she didn't. She threw it even higher and it hit the ceiling and broke into a million pieces. The snow and glass and the light are all upstairs in a little box under my bed. Ruth broke my best gift ever, and now I hate her!"

Jamie and her mom went to her room and got the box of broken pieces, and it was clear it could not be repaired. Her mom said, "Jamie, I know Ruth must feel badly about this. She has never broken any of your things before. I don't think she meant to break this, either."

Jamie stopped crying and said, "She told me she was sorry, but I just can't forgive her."

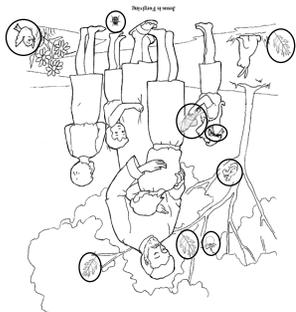
Mom told Jamie how Jesus told us we must forgive others or we will be punished, then they prayed. A smile broke over Jamie's face. She went to the phone and dialed Ruth's number, and her mom heard her say, "Ruth, it's Jamie. I'm sorry I was so mean to you. I forgive you."

## Questions

1. Did you ever have a friend do something to you that made you sad?
2. What is the best way to forgive someone?

# Gospel Grams

Today's Gospel Story  
is from  
**Matthew 18:21-35**



Hide n' Seek

Not seven times, but, I tell  
you, seventy-seven times.

Fallen Letter Puzzle

## Answers

Letter Changing Steps

Need  
Heed  
Held  
Toed  
Help

Good  
Gold  
Told  
Toed  
Teed  
Deed

