

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**4-9 year olds**

Week 4

*Forgive One Another*

# Forgive One Another

The objective is the goal or main teaching point of this week's study. If you convey one thing to your players, make it this.

Read this passage aloud to the kids, as it will be the focus of this week's study. Each week's memory verse will be in bold.

Here is where we will discuss today's passage with the players. This can be read off the page or summarized and explained in the coach's own words.

**Objective** This study will teach the kids the importance of forgiving others when they do something wrong to us.

## Scripture Passage:

“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; **bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.**”

Colossians 3:12-13 (memory verse, Colossians 3:13, in **bold**)

## In the Word

Last week we saw how important it is to love our fellow members of the Body of Christ since we are all part of the same Body. We should all do our best to love one another, but none of us will be perfect. All of us here have done unloving things to one another at one point. When that happens, we can't be divided. Today we are going to learn what we should do when one of our fellow members of Christ's Body does something unkind or unloving to us and see that we must forgive them.

In Colossians 3:13, Paul tells us to bear with one another and forgive one another. This means that when someone is unloving to us, we don't stop loving or separate from them. We respond with love, knowing that what they did was wrong but not holding that wrong thing against them. It's easy to want to stop being that person's friend or return their unkindness with unkindness of our own, but the right thing to do is forgive them and continue to love them.

What if our body parts didn't forgive one another? Say your feet tripped, and because of that, your face hit the ground and got hurt. Imagine if your face decided it didn't want to be part of the same body as the feet anymore, and so it left. That would be chaos! Our body parts make mistakes all the time, but when they do, they don't stop helping each other. The same way, everyone makes mistakes and hurts others. When that happens, we should forgive one another and try to heal that relationship, not fight or divide from one another.

## In the Word (Continued)

Our verse ends with the most important reason why we should forgive our fellow believers: because Christ forgave us. If Jesus could forgive us for all of our sins, shouldn't we be able to forgive others when they do something wrong to us? We didn't deserve His forgiveness, but He forgave us anyway. The same way, we must forgive one another, even if the other person doesn't apologize at first.

This season, there will be times that your teammates do something that upsets you. It is in those situations that we must forgive one another. That means that we don't end the friendship, start a fight, or gossip to others about what they did. Instead, we should decide not to hold the thing they did against them and to fix the problem and make it right. When we do that, the Body of Christ and our team will be a healthy body.

"On the Field" gives some in-game situations where today's lesson can be applied, while "Off the Field" gives examples from everyday life. Encourage them to do the things you listed during the game today.

### On the Field

- Is there someone on this team who has been unkind to you or that you don't get along with? Forgive that person and work on becoming friends.
- In a game, the other team might push, trip, or hurt you. Do not hold this against them and forgive them when it happens.
- When you do something wrong, apologize in order to help others forgive you.

### Off the Field

- Think about someone who is unkind to you. Forgive that person and try to make the friendship right.
- Sometimes those who do something wrong to you will not apologize. You should still forgive that person.
- Just as Christ forgave us for all sins, we should forgive others no matter how many times they sin against you.

These are some final notes/goals to accomplish this week. These are not meant to be read, but are instructions for the coach.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, 1 John 4:7. Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Colossians 3:13 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. If we don't forgive our teammates, it will hurt the team both on and off the field. Encourage your players to forgive one another if there is any division between them.