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# Forgive and Forget

## Get Excited!

### ***Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play Debt Forgiven.***

Give each student a copy of the penny template in Appendix A. Write “I Forgive” on the front of the penny. Write “You” on the back of the penny. Then allow students to exchange the pennies with each other.

## Scripture Summary

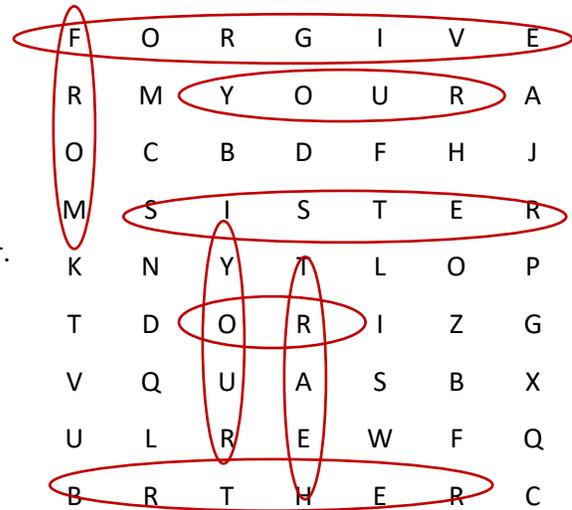
Peter asked Jesus how many times we should forgive someone that does something wrong to us. Peter thought 7 times was a fair number, but Jesus looked at Peter and said, “No! 70 times 7.” Jesus then told him a story about a man that owed the king some money. The man, his family and all his belongings would have been sold to repay the money the servant owed, but the king forgave his debt and let him go free. The same man was owed some money by his slave and he did not forgive the debt like the king forgave him. Instead he punished the slave. When the king heard what the man did, he immediately became angry and placed the man in prison until he paid his entire debt. The king told the man, “If I forgave you, you should have forgiven your slave.” Jesus shared this story so that Peter would understand that God’s Kingdom is the same way. We must forgive others as God has forgiven us.

## Key Verse Exercise

### ***Read the verse to remember aloud.***

*Forgive your brother or sister from your heart.  
(Matthew 18:35)*

Tell students to find the words in the verse to remember.



## Read and Learn!

**Read Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 5 aloud. Review key words.**

### Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 5: The Hug Heard Around the World

Israel was playing in the backyard with his little brother and friends. Their game of kick ball was getting very **intense** and the bases were loaded. One of their friends yelled out, “Hurry up and roll the ball already!” The pitcher wound up his arm as far back as he could and let it rip! The ball was moving so fast that it seemed to never touch ground. Israel’s little brother tried with all his might to kick the ball but he missed and fell down. All the kids burst into laughter poking fun at him so badly, he began to cry. He got off the ground furious with anger and told all of them, “I hate you all for making fun of me and I’m going home!” Israel quickly ran to his brother trying to apologize for their behavior but his brother did not want to talk to him. Israel pleaded, “Please **forgive** us for making fun of you. We weren’t trying to hurt your feelings. It was all just a joke.” His brother still refused his apology and went home. The next day all the kids met after school for another intense game. Israel’s brother showed up ready to play but the other kids refused to play with him. He looked on sadly hoping someone would feel sorry for him and let him play. He slowly walked over to Israel and said, “Brother, I’m sorry for not accepting your **apology** yesterday.” Israel looked at him with a smile and said “No, we are sorry for making fun of you.” The two hugged and Israel screamed, “Let the game begin!” They learned that the two words, I’m Sorry, go both ways and it is important to be able to forgive and love one another.

#### key words

##### intense

extremely serious

##### forgive

stop feeling angry toward someone for something they did to hurt you

##### apology

an acknowledgement of regret for doing or saying something that hurt someone

## Rise Up!

**Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.**

In Jesus’ story, what could have the man have done differently to help the slave that owed him money?

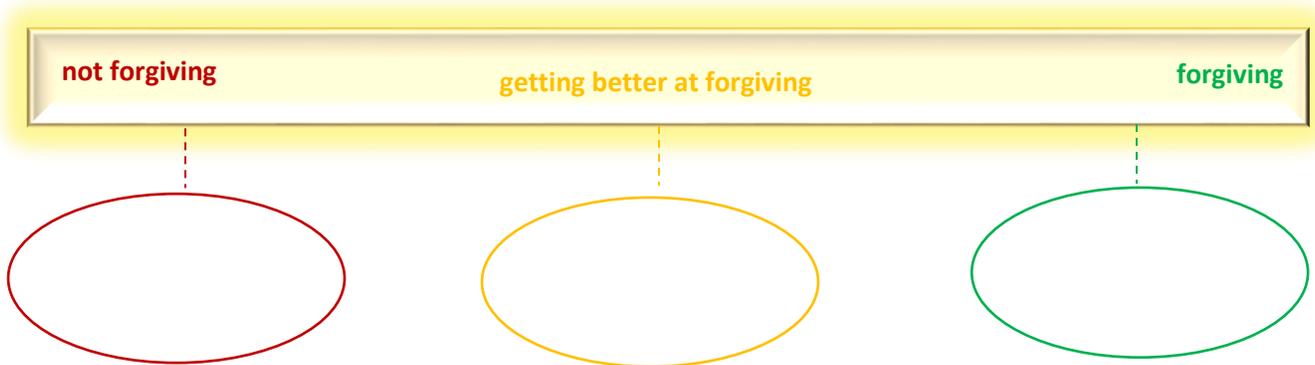
Forgave him like the king did

How many times did Jesus tell Peter we should forgive someone that has done us wrong? 70 times 7

Why should we forgive others? Because God forgives us

**Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.**

Tell students the Faithful Five are making a “forgiveness meter” to see if they are doing a good job at forgiving others. You can make one too by listing the times you did not forgive others and the times you forgave others.



**Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a forgiveness fan.**

Materials needed: Craft sticks, glue, cardstock paper (two per student), markers, scissors

Instructions: Trace your hand on the 2 pieces of cardstock paper. Cut out the hand patterns. Write the words “Forgiveness Fan” on one hand. Use the glue to attach the craft stick as a handle on the other hand. Then glue both hands together to make the front and back of the fan. Allow the fan to dry.

**Close the lesson with prayer.**

Lord, thank you for always forgiving us and loving us. Lord help us to be able to forgive and love the same way that you do. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Lesson 6 – July 8, 2018 | Matthew 23: 1-4, 23-26

## Practice What You Preach

**Get Excited!**

**Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play I Am a...**

Make flash cards with different roles. (Example: preacher, singer, dancer, athlete, doctor, artist, etc.) Shuffle the cards and place them face down on a table. Allow each student to pick a card. The student must act out the role by starting with the phrase “I am a...”. The class then tries to fill in the blank by guessing what the role is.

### Scripture Summary

Jesus wanted his disciples and followers to practice what they preached. He warned preachers and teachers that if they did not practice what they were preaching, they would do so much more damage to the people they were teaching than they would do good. Jesus also warned them against bringing in a tenth of their crops but did not practicing mercy, faith, and justice for the people.

### Key Verse Exercise

**Read the verse to remember aloud.**

*Justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced. (Matthew 23:23)*

Tell students to write the missing word in the verse to remember that has a similar meaning to words in the boxes below.

righteousness	<b>mercy</b>	confidence
fairness	grace	belief
<b>justice</b>	kindness	<b>faith</b>

## Read and Learn!

**Read *Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 6* aloud. Review key words.**

### **Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 6: Practice What You Preach**

Taj has been acting rather ugly in school lately. The teacher always looked at Taj as a leader in her classroom. Early in the week, the teacher noticed that most of the kids that would hang around Taj were beginning to distant themselves from him. She wondered why. One of the students finally broke down and told the teacher, “Taj has been acting like a bully lately. He was running up to little girls, pulling their ponytails, and hitting the little boys with his book bag on the way to the bus in the afternoon.” The teacher, in disbelief of his actions, called Taj up to her desk when the rest of the class went to music class. “Taj, I am disappointed in your behavior and I have written this letter for you to take home to your parents,” she said. Taj was so nervous to give the note to his parents because he knew they would not approve of his recent behavior. When his parents received the note they immediately were upset with Taj. His father said, “Taj, I am disappointed because I have always known you as a

**leader** and lately you have been showing qualities of a follower. You will be on two weeks restriction for your behavior until you can practice the leadership qualities that you have been preaching to other kids.” Taj sat in his room with tears in his eyes and begin to pray and ask God for forgiveness for his actions, “Dear God, I have been **fake** with my peers and family and I really want to be the leader that I used to be.” After he finished his prayer, Taj went to his parents and apologized for his behavior. The next morning, his parents took him to the school so he could apologize to his teacher and his **peers**. When Taj got home that afternoon his father told him, “Son, now you are acting like the leader that you’re supposed to be.” Taj learned a valuable lesson. If you are going to be a leader, you have to act like one and practice what you preach.

## key words

### **leader**

a person who motivates others toward achieving a goal

### **fake**

acting like someone else

### **peers**

people at your level

## Rise Up!

**Answers to questions in *What Do You Think* are underlined.**

Why was it important for the disciples to practice what they preached? Because not doing the things they taught others to do would make them look like pretenders.

What preaching did Taj do to others that he didn’t obey himself? He was acting like a bully.

**Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.**

Tell students the Faithful Five want to make a graphic novel about why it is important for our words to match our actions. Help them by making a “Practice What You Preach” cartoon.

***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a gospel megaphone.***

Materials needed: Megaphone tags in Appendix B, paper cups in various colors, pipe cleaners, stickers, scissors, glue

Instructions: Before class cut out the bottoms of the cups, cut the pipe cleaners in half, and print scripture tags. Also poke two holes in the cup large enough for students to insert pipe cleaners. Position the holes as the endpoints of a megaphone handle.

During class, allow children to color and cut out their megaphone tags. Insert the ends of the pipe cleaners into the two holes. Bend the ends inside the cup so the handle is secure. Glue the megaphone tags to the cup. Provide additional stickers to decorate. Encourage students to say memory verse with their megaphones.

***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Dear God, thank you for teaching me how to determine good from bad. Help me to make good decisions. In Jesus Name, Amen!

Lesson 7 – July 15, 2018 | Luke 18: 1-8

## Get What's Fair

**Get Excited!**

***Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “How Many Times?”***

Ask a series of questions like “How many times do you usually have to ask your mother for something you want? What do you do when she says no? How does this make you feel?”

**Scripture Summary**

Jesus is trying to help his disciples be better at praying. He tells them a story to encourage them to pray always and not give up. In the story, a woman goes to visit a judge that didn't believe in God or show respect for others. The woman wanted the judge to grant her justice against her opponent but the judge would not. The woman continued to bother the judge with her request until he finally made a decision to help her. He granted her justice because she never gave up. Jesus used this story to help the disciples know how to think about prayer. They should not get distracted from their praying. And, they should be prepared to keep praying, no matter what happens.



## Read and Learn!

**Read *Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 7* aloud. Review key words.**

### **Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 7: Prayer Works**

Tori's friend Josh lives in a **homeless shelter**. One day at school they began to share about their lives. "Josh, my family went on a vacation to Disney World. I had a chance to ride the most amazing rides and had so much fun with my brothers and sisters," said Tori. She noticed that Josh wasn't looking and smiling anymore. "What's wrong?" Tori asked. "Well, we lost our house when I was in kindergarten and I have never been on a vacation with my family. We live in the shelter now," said Josh. Tori immediately began to pray for Josh. She asked her parents if she could invite Josh to dinner so the he could feel the **joy** she **experiences** at home. They said he could come as long it way okay with his parents. On the day Josh came over for dinner, just her father took him back to the shelter, Tori asked, "Josh would you like for me to pray with you that God would find your family a home?" Josh said excitedly, "Sure! I will pray every day and every night too until God finds us a home." Some time passed by and it was almost spring break. Tori would ask Josh every day if his family had a new home. With his head held low, he would quietly whisper no. One Friday morning, Tori was waiting in their meeting spot but Josh never showed up. Tori knew something was strange and became worried and started praying again for Josh. Shortly after, she saw Josh running towards her with a huge smile on his face screaming, "It worked! It worked!" Tori said, "Calm down! What worked Josh?" With excitement Josh said, "Your prayers! We found a home. My parents are even getting me a puppy like Prince!" Tori hugged Josh around the neck and said, "I told you prayer works every time!"

## key words

### **homeless shelter**

a temporary place to stay for people who do not have a place to live

### **joy**

happiness

### **experiences**

feels

## Rise Up!

**Answers to questions in *What Do You Think are underlined*.**

What made the judge change his mind and help the woman? The woman would not stop coming to him and asking for his help.

What was Jesus trying to teach the disciples with this story? To be better at praying

How did Tori and Josh practice what Jesus taught? They kept praying to God to find a new home for Josh and his family.

**Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.**

Ask students if they know what a parable is. Answers may vary but you should reinforce the definition. A parable is a simple story Jesus used to illustrate a moral lesson. Tell students to help the Faithful Five teach their friends about fairness and justice by making up a parable based on their own experiences.

***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a prayer magnet.***

Materials needed: Self-adhesive magnet strips, glossy cardstock squares, white paper squares, glue, markers

Instructions: Before class cut the cardstock and white paper into fourths to create squares. The paper square should be slightly smaller than the cardstock square. Give each student a cardstock square and a paper square. Tell students to write a prayer on the paper square with the marker. Stick the magnet strips on the non-glossy side of the cardstock square. Glue the paper square to the glossy side of the cardstock square. Allow the magnets to dry.

***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Lord, thank you for hearing our prayers. God help us to remember to talk to you daily so that you can talk to us daily. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lesson 8 – July 22, 2018 | Luke 13: 22-30

## It Takes Discipline

**Get Excited!**

***Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “Knock, Knock.”***

Tell a few “knock, knock” jokes. Give instructions on how “knock, knock” jokes are told to ensure every student knows that when you say, “knock, knock,” they are supposed to say, “who’s there?” And when you say the name, they are supposed to say the name and “who?”

*Knock, Knock. (Who's there?) Ben. (Ben who?) Ben knocking for ten minutes. Please let me in.*

*Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Doris. (Doris who?) Doris locked, that's why I'm knocking.*

*Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Adore. (Adore who?) Adore is between us, please open up!*

*Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Lettuce. (Lettuce who?) Lettuce in, it's cold out here!*

## Scripture Summary

Jesus was making his way to Jerusalem, stopping to teach in many villages and towns. One day as he was teaching, someone asked him will only a few people be saved. He said that they should strive to enter through the narrow way. Many will try to get in but won't make it. Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand knocking but won't get in. The door Jesus talked about was the door to Heaven, God's Kingdom.

## Key Verse Exercise

**Read the verse to remember aloud.**

*Enter through the narrow door. (Luke 13:24)*

Tell students to decode the verse to remember.

E n t e r   t h r o u g h   t h e   n a r r o w  
5 14 20 5 18   20 8 18 15 21 7 8   20 8 5   14 1 18 18 15 23

d o o r.  
4 15 15 18

## Read and Learn!

**Read Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 8 aloud. Review key words.**

### Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 8: Dream Gate

Every evening around 6:00 pm, Tori gets her bible and reads her devotion for the day. While Tori was reading, she stumbled across the verse of the day and became very interested in this **narrow** gate she could possibly enter. The more she read about how there will be lots of people running towards this narrow gate, the more her imagination went wild! "Wow! I can't wait to run hard and fast to be the first to the gate," Tori said to herself. Suddenly Tori fell asleep and she began to dream. In her dream, she arrived to the gate where there was a sign over the gate that read "Heaven!" The biggest smile came across her face with the thought of making it in the gate. When she finally reached the gate, she noticed there were some people walking away from the gate crying because they had been rejected. She then became concerned. One older gentleman standing beside Tori with a huge smile on his face shouted, "Hallelujah!" He then turned to Tori and asked, "Why such a scared face young lady?" Tori looked at him and said, "I see people walking away crying. Why do you have such a happy face sir?" He said, "I've waited all my life to get here!" Tori replied, "Well I have always heard this was a great place. My mom and dad talk about it all the time."

### key words

**narrow**

not broad or wide

**baptized**

immersed in water as a Christian ritual

**adventure**

an exciting experience

“Are you nice or naughty?” asked the gentlemen. “I’m pretty nice. I obey my parents and do my chores”, said Tori. “That’s wonderful, but I have one more question for you because this one will determine if you have a reason to be scared,” said the gentlemen. Tori answered with curiosity, “Okay, go ahead and ask me.” The gentleman continued, “Have you received Jesus Christ as your savior and been **baptized?**” Tori hurriedly answer, “Oh yes sir, I have, and I read my bible daily.” The gentleman said, “Well with that record you shouldn’t have anything to worry about sweetheart.” About this time Tori heard a voice shouting, “Tori! Tori!” She got so excited because she thought it was her time to step up to the gate. That’s when she felt her mother’s hand on her shoulder waking her up for dinner. She looked at her mother with the biggest smile and said, “Mom you won’t believe the **adventure** I just went on while I was sleep.” As they ate dinner she went on tell her mother how she was glad that she was a follower of Jesus and loved him with all of her heart because she’s going to make it through the narrow gate.

### **Rise Up!**

#### ***Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.***

What did someone ask Jesus while he was teaching? Will only a few people be saved

What was Jesus’ response? Strive to enter through the narrow way. Many will try to get in but won’t make it.

Who do you think is the narrow door? Answers will vary but emphasize that Jesus is the narrow door. We must follow him.

Why was Tori so excited when she woke up? She had a dream about heaven and knew she was going to make it through the narrow gate because she is a follower of Jesus.

#### ***Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.***

Tell students the Faithful Five want to be better followers of Christ. Make a list of actions they can do to accomplish this goal.

#### ***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a door hanger.***

Materials needed: Craft foam door hangers (can be purchased from a craft store), craft foam stickers and letters (at least 500 pieces), permanent marker

Instructions: Give each student a craft foam door hanger. Allow students to decorate their door hanger with craft foam stickers and letters. Use the permanent marker to write “Jesus is the Way” on the door hanger.

#### ***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Lord, thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life. Thank you that he leads us into the right way so that we can live in your Heavenly Kingdom. Holy Spirit, show us how to faithfully follow Jesus all the days of our lives. In Jesus’ Name, Amen!

# Come One! Come All!

## Get Excited!

***Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Watch the “Parable of the Great Banquet.”***

Show the YouTube video of the Parable of the Great Banquet

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4f7DZZgAPpY>).

## Scripture Summary

Jesus tells a parable about a host who is preparing a great feast. As the time for the feast got closer, the host was receiving reports from his friends that they had other things to do for the evening and would not be able to attend his banquet. The host was disappointed. He ordered the servants to invite everyone until the house was filled, including the people who were never invited because they were poor or had disabilities. In this story, the host represents God and the dinner is at His heavenly banquet. God has invited all of us to His Kingdom but sometimes insiders will reject the invitation and outsiders will always be welcomed.

## Key Verse Exercise

***Read the verse to remember aloud.***

*Bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame. (Luke 14:21)*

Tell students to solve the riddle to reveal the verse to remember.

Br + thing – th = **Bring** | pin – p = **in** | top – op + hat – at + e = **the** | p + floor – fl = **poor**  
t + she – s = **the** | c + trip – t + pled = **crippled** | these – se = **the** | bl + find – f = **blind**  
candy – c – y = **and** | top – op + hat – at + e = **the** | lamb – b + e = **lame**

## Read and Learn!

***Read Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 9 aloud. Review key words.***

**Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 9: All Are Welcome**

The Faithful Five have been given the task of setting the table for dinner at the church. Taj said, “Guys, I’m not really sure of how many tables we should set up because so many people weren’t in service today.” About this time the Pastor walked in the room and told them to set up all the tables they had available. Israel looked across the room in **disbelief** because he felt like they were wasting time setting up all those tables and chairs. As they worked, the pastor came back into the room with a **gloomy** look on his face. The five of them stopped and asked the pastor

### key words

**disbelief**

refusal to accept something as true

**gloomy**

sad

**qualified**

have the right

what was wrong. The pastor began to tell them how everyone was starting to call and cancel their attendance to the dinner. The Faithful Five determined not to let their work be in vain, told the pastor not to worry because they had plenty of friends from school and the neighborhood that could really use a hot meal because they couldn't afford food in their homes. The pastor's eyes lit up with joy and excitement because he thought it was a great idea. "Yes! Bring everyone you can find and we will use this as a chance to show the love of Christ," he said. The Faithful Five finished with the last table and took off outside. When they returned to the church, they had so many people with them, the church could barely hold them. As the people were being served, each member of the Faithful Five sat at different tables explaining the love of Christ and helping people come into relationship with Jesus. The people were so excited to learn that they were all special in God's sight and they were all **qualified** for a seat at God's table because God loves them. The pastor met with the Faithful Five after the dinner was over and told them how proud he was of them for letting God use them in a way that will be remembered forever.

### **Rise Up!**

#### ***Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.***

How did the man in Jesus' story and the Faithful Five's pastor experience the same thing? The people who were originally invited did not come to the special dinner.

How could you make all children feel welcome at your table? (Answers will vary.)

#### ***Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.***

Tell students to help the Faithful Five pick up groceries for the great feast their church is having to feed families in need. Draw the food you want them to serve in the shopping cart.

#### ***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make an invitation.***

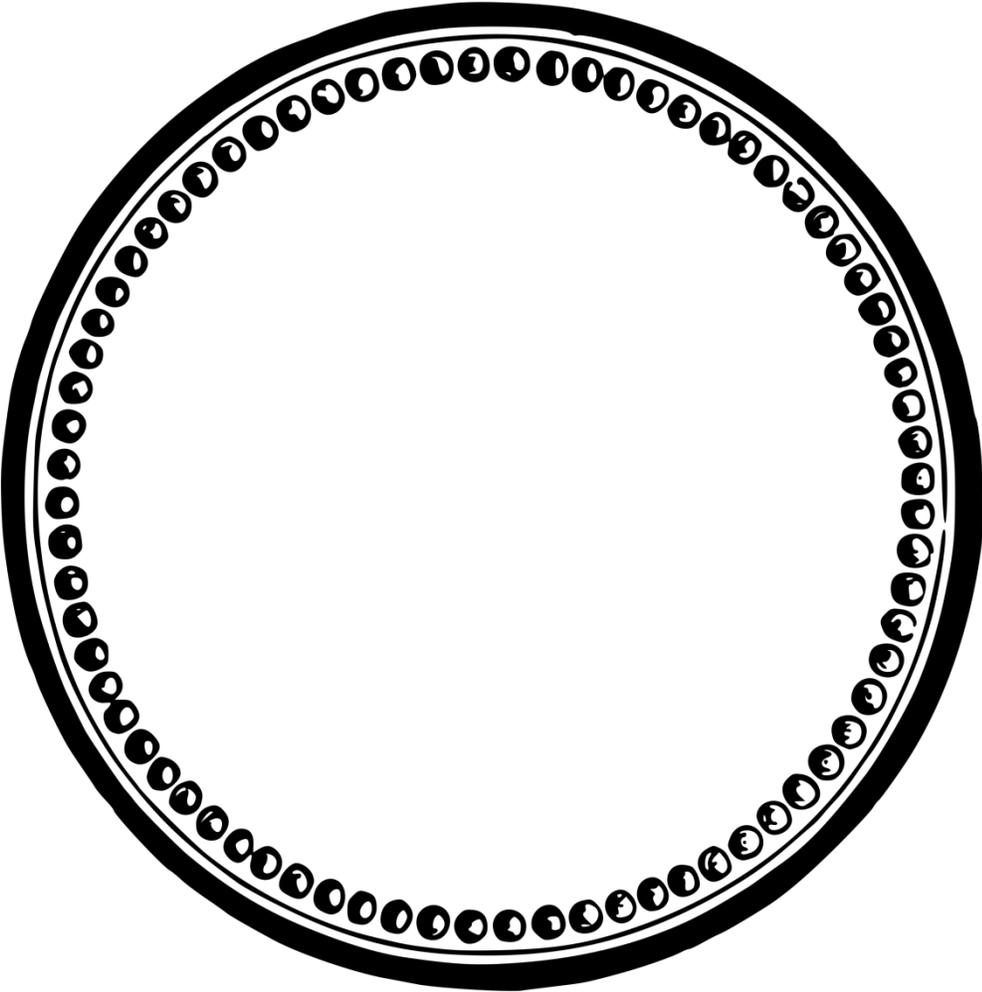
Materials needed: Large index cards, construction paper, ribbon, markers, crayons, glitter glue, glue

Instructions: Give each student an index card. Allow students to use the other materials to create an invitation to the great feast the Faithful Five are hosting. Encourage them to be creative.

#### ***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Lord, please allow us to be able to be a blessing to someone that may look different than us or have less than we do. We thank you for giving all of us a special invitation to your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Appendix A | Penny Template



Practice what you preach!

Practice what you preach!