Bible
Matthew 18:15-35

Memory Verse
“Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven” (Luke 6:37).

Parent Study
Christ’s Object Lessons, pages 243-251. Do more research about forgive(ness).

Character Quality
Forgiveness vs Condemnation
Forgiveness is the act of pardon of an offender, by which he is considered and treated as not guilty as God forgives us.

“And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:32).

Looking Through Nature
The Senses of Mammals
1. Mammal’s Senses
2. Smell and Taste
3. Ears and Hearing
4. Sight
5. Touch
6. Intelligence
that we are never to become weary of forgiving. Not ‘Until seven times,’ He said, ‘but, Until seventy times seven.’”
(Christ’s Object Lessons 243)

Review

1. What is the first step we should take if a brother trespasses against us? (Matthew 18:15)

2. If the brother will not hear, what should you do? (Matthew 18:16)

3. What is the final step if the brother will not hear? (Matthew 18:17)
Nature

Mammal’s Senses

The main senses in mammals are smell, taste, hearing, sight, and touch. These senses help them to live in their environment. The special sense organs keep the animal in touch with the outside world so that the rest of the body’s cells can get on with their own tasks. Not all mammals have all these senses equally developed and some do not have all the senses. Usually one or two senses are keener than the rest. In the end, we are not to trust our senses because some of our senses may not be developed correctly. We can only trust the Word of God (The Great Controversy 625). “All should guard the senses, lest Satan gain the victory over them; for these are the avenues to the soul.” (3 Testimonies 507)

An example of how some senses are keener than others is found in the tiger. They have sharp ears and eyes which help them find and catch their prey in the jungle. But their sense of smell is not that good. The trees of a jungle break up the flow of wind and cause it to change direction many times. A tiger could become confused and give away its presence when following the smell (scent) of a prey through the soft wind of a jungle. So the sense of smell would not be helpful to a tiger.

You can tell something about an animal’s way of life from the way its sense organs look. For example, an animal with small eyes will probably rely on other senses than sight. An animal with large ears depends more on hearing. Compare the face of a dog and a cat. Generally dogs have a long muzzle, large ears and their eyes are not large compared to the rest of their face. We could guess then that the sense of smell is most important, then hearing and lastly, sight. A cat, on the other hand, had prominent ears for its head size, fairly large eyes, and a nose that is not unusually long. This time our guess would be that hearing is most important, then sight and smell. A cat’s eyes can also teach us more about its lifestyle. It has pupils in its eyes that can contract or expand. This can be used to reduce the amount of light coming into the eye when the sun is strong and to open the eye to catch most of the light when darkness falls. Therefore it appears that the cat can move about during the day or night but it is probably more naturally active at night. The long whiskers on the cat’s nose and forehead suggest that it moves through undergrowth or narrow passages, such as between rocks. If we knew nothing about a cat we could guess by looking at it that it hunted by night, sneaking up on its victim which it tracked more by sound than by any other sense. This is completely different than a dog who usually hunts by day, trails its victim by their scent, and wears them down by running.

This method of guessing about an animal by its sense organs must be used sparingly. One needs to know what country the animal came from, especially when dealing with the ears. As you remember an elephant has large ears to help it cool its body, while this helps it in a hot country it would be terrible in a cold country where the ears would soon be frost-bitten.
Animals that are hunted, such as deer, need to have a sharp sense of smell; they also have very good hearing. A jungle breeze brings the scent of the tiger telling the deer that an enemy is somewhere about. Then the deer can use its sense of hearing to find the tiger.

In open country, where there are deserts and flat plains, the wind blows without interruptions and carries smells and sounds over long distances. Rabbits and other animals being hunted can tell where their enemies are and flee from them.

A mole is almost blind, but its nose and tail are very sensitive to touch. They tell the animal what it needs to know as it digs its underground tunnels.

The senses that best help each kind of mammal to find food and escape its enemies are much sharper and more sensitive than its other senses. God would have our sense of helping a brother or sister find forgiveness very sensitive. Also, if we have a sense of our own sins we will forgive others more easily.

Some mammals have sensitivities that scientists do not understand very well yet. Have you ever heard about horses, dogs, and cats that sensed an earthquake before it actually happened? It is thought that the air becomes charged with electricity just before an earthquake. People may be sensitive to the electricity but the effects such as headaches, irritability and upset stomach are so common that people do not realize that anything unusual is about to happen. The Bible tells us that earthquakes will increase as Christ’s coming draws near. Are we sensitive to what is going on around us so that we will not be caught off guard?

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<td>1. As you work together as a family, let your chores remind you of your lesson.</td>
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<td>2. Sometimes your brothers and sisters may trespass against you by not doing their part of the chores. It is easy to run to father or mother and tell on them. It is God’s plan that we first encourage them by going to them in a humble attitude to help them do what is right. If that does not work, then it may require your parents help, or finally, even a family counsel to be called to resolve the problem.</td>
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<td>1. Look for mammals! Use your guide book to identify them.</td>
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<td>2. Notice this week your cat or dog, or maybe a wild animal, and how they use their senses.</td>
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<td>3. Find illustrations of animals using their senses to put on your bulletin board.</td>
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<td>4. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, <em>Children’s Bible Activities, Stories, and Poems</em>, for this quarter.</td>
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<td>5. Say your memory verse!</td>
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Remarkable Parent Food

Read The Desire of Ages pages 440-441.

Why do people sometimes have a hard time deciding to forgive someone?

Sometimes they enjoy the attention and pity they receive when they tell others about the wrong done to them. They enjoy causing people to take sides, causing others to despise those who have treated them badly. How would they be able to “get even” with those who hurt them if they chose to forgive them? Some continue to nurse their grievances as an excuse for their own shortcomings and failures. Their attitude is: “I am the way I am because of what I have suffered.” Forgiving would make them take the unwanted responsibility to be what they should be.

$7 \times 70 = 490$ – The number 490 marks the product of spiritual perfection (7) with regard to God’s people (70).

Forgiveness

“Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?”

“Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven” (Matthew 18:21-22).

Seven is one of the perfect numbers in the Bible. God would have us be led by His Spirit and forgive people each time they hurt us by showing perfect forgiveness.

I heard of a little girl who was saying the Lord’s Prayer, kneeling by her mother’s side. When she came to the part that says, “Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors,” she suddenly stopped and burst into tears. Her mother tenderly asked what wrong. The little girl replied that she could not say that part of the prayer because she could not forgive that little girl that ruined her beautiful dolly’s face.

“Well,” said the mother, “God can help you, my child; I’ll ask Him.” And as soon as the mother closed her earnest prayer that her little girl might have grace to forgive, the child looked up and smiled. Then she clasped her little hands together and slowly and reverently finished her prayer, beginning with where she had left off, and she was comforted.

Now, dear children, if you ever feel unhappy about how your playmates treat you, instead of cherishing angry, resentful
feelings, and saying mean things to those around you, get into the habit of telling the Lord about it. Ask Him to help you to forgive even as you want to be forgiven.

Little children are not apt to keep their troubles to themselves if they have a kind, sympathetic mother and father. Neither let us who are older keep our troubles within when we have such a kind Father in heaven, who has promised, “As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you” (Isaiah 66:13).

Review

1. What question did Peter ask? (Matthew 18:21)

2. How did Jesus respond to Peter’s question? (Matthew 18:22)

3. What does the number seven mean?

“The sense of smell is important to mammals. Most species have large nasal cavities which are lined with sensitive nerves that respond to odors. This helps the mammal to find food and detect an enemy. In some species the animal’s odor plays an important role in communicating with one another. The odors are produced by different skin glands and body wastes. A dog will urinate on a tree or something else to let other dogs know it has been there. Some mammals, like apes and monkeys, have a poor sense of smell. Others, like whales and dolphins, probably have no sense of smell.

Animals that are active at night (nocturnal) have a better sense of sight than animals that roam about during the day. It helps to make up for the lesser powers of smell in the night. This shows us that God has a way to make everything balance out. If you have a lack in one way He will help you to compensate for it somehow. And if you are lacking money because someone will not pay you what they owe you, God can arrange for your needs to be supplied through another channel, He will take care of you, never fear. “.... For all that the world neglects to bestow, God Himself will make up to them in the best of favors.” (The Ministry of Healing 199)

“Some are unconscious of the harm they are doing; but, unconsecrated, proud, and rebellious themselves, they lead others in the wrong track.

A poisonous atmosphere is inhaled from these unconsecrated ones.”

5 Testimonies 675

“O taste and see that the Lord is good.”

Psalm 34:8
Did you realize your body gives off a natural scent? As you walk you give off a cloud of tiny particles. If the air is still, this cloud of scent sinks to the ground. After a while it slowly sinks into the ground and is eventually lost. Did you ever see a dog trailing someone with his nose to the ground? When a trail is a few days old, the dog may instinctively scratch the ground where the scent has sunk in. He may scrape away the soil every now and then to make sure he is on the right track. Are you leaving the fragrance of forgiveness behind you as you walk through life?

**Remind**

1. As you work together as a family, let your chores remind you of your lesson.

2. Notice sevens as you do your chores like seven trees, seven cows, and so forth. Remember your lesson of how many times we need to forgive.

3. Go for a walk with a dog and watch him trail a scent.

4. Go to God in prayer for grace to forgive when ever someone treats you wrong.

**Taste**

The sense of taste is helpful in mammals to determine what food to eat. The taste buds in the tongue are helpful, and also the odor of food. But tongues not only taste, mammals use it for other jobs, like licking (cleaning) themselves.

Our senses also help us. By watching people we can detect their needs—eyes to see their needs; ears to hear their cry for help; nose to sense their need of information in hygiene; taste to use to help choose the best of foods to share with them, and touch to comfort them. “I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame” (Job 29:14).

**Reinforce**

1. Look for mammals! Use your guide book to identify them.

2. Always say only good about a person. Practice this each day.

3. Use your senses to track an animal such as a deer.

4. Blindfold one person and (do just before lunch) have him taste different things without touching to guess what they are. Let the person smell a thin slice of pear and give him a thin slice of apple. Ask the question, “What are you eating?” This will help you to see that the sense of smell is stronger than the sense of taste.

5. Use cotton balls. Put scents on them like mint flavoring, and so forth. Lay out and let each one smell and guess what scent they are.

6. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, *Children’s Bible Activities, Stories, and Poems*, for this quarter. Say your memory verse!
Remarkable Parent Food

“Let all bitterness and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil-speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another; tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you”
(Ephesians 4:31-32).

Have you completely forgiven your mate, your parents, your in-laws, your children, your friend. And your neighbors who have not fulfilled the debt they owe you by virtue of a proper relationship? Maybe your spouse is cold and critical in place of loving you as God commands. Maybe your parents failed in their obligation to care for you. Maybe your neighbors have taken advantage of your kindness instead of following the golden rule.

Pray for the spirit of Christ who said, “Father forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34).

It is especially hard to forgive if the one who has injured you will not admit that they have wronged you. They may not be sorry. At such times when you may feel no desire to forgive you must realize that forgiveness is a matter of the will and not the emotions. God has told us to forgive others and not to do so is disobedience. Forgiving someone does not let that person “off the hook” with God. He says, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay” (Romans 12:19). If you are still having a hard time forgiving, take a closer look at God’s forgiveness of you. Remember, when you forgive a person, it is one sinner forgiving another. Neither you, nor the other person involved are, or have been, what you ought to be. But in the case of a person receiving forgiveness from God, it is an entirely different situation. When God forgives us, He is forgiving someone who has sinned against His perfect holiness.

Finally, to test yourself to see if you have forgiven one who has wronged you look to see if you love that person. Love is not a feeling. It is an action verb. If you think you have forgiven someone and yet you do not want to have anything to do with them, you may need to go back to God and ask Him what is keeping you from loving that person. Jesus did not forgive us and then refuse to love us.

Mammals use tongue for many jobs.
Forgiving Debt

“Then He [Jesus] showed the true ground upon which forgiveness is to be granted and the danger of cherishing an unforgiving spirit. In a parable He told of a king’s dealing with the officers who administered the affairs of his government. Some of these officers were in receipt of vast sums of money belonging to the state. As the king investigated their administration of this trust, there was brought before him one man whose account showed a debt to his lord for the immense sum of ten thousand talents. He had nothing to pay, and according to the custom, the king ordered him to be sold, with all that he had, that payment might be made. But the terrified man fell at his feet and besought him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.’”  (Christ’s Object Lessons 243-244)

Ten thousand talents is about $6,221,880.00.

Be of good cheer thy sins be forgiven thee.”  
Matthew 9:2

Review

1. Tell the parable Christ told.
2. What does forgiveness mean?
3. Do you have a forgiving spirit?

Nature

Ears and Hearing

Hearing

Most mammals have an outer ear that collects sound waves and directs them into the middle and inner ear. God made pairs of ears for mammals. Having two ears makes it much easier to tell where a sound is coming from.

Mammals can use their ears to find food and avoid objects in the dark. They remind us to “Hear instruction and be wise” (Proverbs 8:33). Bats make short, high-pitched sounds that bounce off objects surrounding them. Bats use the echoes from the sounds to locate insects. Whales use this system to find their food and avoid objects under the water. This is called echolocation. It is like sonar. The whale’s sounds are pitched lower than the bat’s. Did you know that sea lions, seals, and shrews use echolocation? It is important that animals can hear. It is also important for people to listen, especially to the Holy Spirit asking us to forgive people who have wronged us. The rich man heard the plea of his servant who owed him money and forgave him his debt. We, too, can have hearing ears to listen for the needs of others.
Remember how the dog family and other mammals have a good sense of hearing and can move their ears in the direction of a sound? This helps them to know where the sound is coming from.

Some ears are used for other things rather than hearing. Remember how African elephants have huge ear flaps about 6 feet (1.8 meters) across, or almost as wide as a single size bed sheet? Elephants will flap their ears like a fan to keep cool. A mother will beat her ears on her back to call her young. It will even spread out its ears to make it look more threatening to its enemies.

"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.”
Luke 14:35

The ear is a symbol of that quality of the mind that receives and accepts God’s word.

Remind

1. As you work together as a family, let your chores remind you of your lesson.

2. When father or mother calls you to do a chore or anything, be careful to listen to every instruction. Then do exactly as they ask you.

3. Notice how older people sometimes hold a hand behind their ear when they are trying to hear you better. This makes a bigger surface to catch the sound waves. Try to remember to look at them when you speak and talk a little louder and slower so they can understand you.

4. When you are outside trying to find which direction a bird is singing from, try moving your head from side to side, or put a cupped hand behind each of your ears.

Reinforce

1. Look for mammals! Use your guide book to identify them.

2. Notice animals’ ears and even peoples’ ears. Their shape can help you understand how they work.

3. Does someone owe you something, like money, or so forth, that they have borrowed from you? It would be a kind act to forgive them their debt.

4. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, Children’s Bible Activities, Stories, and Poems, for this quarter.

5. Say your memory verse!
Remarkable Parent Food

According to the provisions of the law of Moses a Hebrew could sell himself or be sold by a creditor, but only for a limited time.

“If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be blood shed for him; for he should make full restitution; if he have nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft” (Exodus 22:3).

“And if thy brother that dwelleth by thee be waxen poor, and be sold unto thee; thou shalt not compel him to serve as a bondservant.

“And if a sojourner or stranger wax rich by thee, and thy brother that dwelleth by him wax poor, and sell himself unto the stranger or sojourner by thee, or to the stock of the stranger’s family.

“After that he is sold he may be redeemed again; one of his brethren may redeem him” (Leviticus 25:39, 47-48).

Redeem has the market place concept “to buy back.”

A Hundred Pence

“The pardon granted by this king represents a divine forgiveness of all sin. Christ is represented by the king, who, moved with compassion, forgave the debt of his servant. Man was under the condemnation of the broken law. He could not save himself, and for this reason Christ came to this world, clothed His divinity with humanity, and gave His life, the just for the unjust. He gave Himself for our sins, and to every soul He freely offers the blood-bought pardon. ‘With the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption’ (Psalm 130:7).

“The perfect example: He shed tears for those that shed His blood.”

—Thomas Watson

70 x 7 Day 4
Read Matthew 18:28-30 and Christ’s Object Lessons 244-247.
“Here is the ground upon which we should exercise compassion toward our fellow sinners. *If God so loved us, we ought also to love one another*’ (John 4:11). ‘Freely ye have received,’ Christ says, ‘freely give’ (Matthew 10:8).

“In the parable, when the debtor pleaded for delay, with the promise, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.’ The sentence was revoked. The whole debt was canceled. And he was soon given an opportunity to follow the example of the master who had forgiven him. Going out, he met a fellow servant who owed him a small sum. He had been forgiven ten thousand talents; the debtor owed him a hundred pence. But he who had been so mercifully treated, dealt with his fellow laborer in an altogether different manner. His debtor make an appeal similar to that which he himself had made to the king, but without a similar result. He who had so recently been forgiven was not tenderhearted and pitiful. The mercy shown him he did not exercise in dealing with his fellow servant. He heeded not the request to be patient. The small sum owed to him was all that the ungrateful servant would keep in mind. He demanded all that he thought his due, and carried into effect a sentence similar to that which had been so graciously revoked for him.” *(Christ’s Object Lessons 244-245)*

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**Review**

1. What did the servant do who had been forgiven so much? (Matthew 18:28)

2. What did the servant’s fellow servant do? (Matthew 18:29)

3. How did the servant respond who had been forgiven so much? (Matthew 18:30)

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**Nature**

**Sight**

Sight is very important to mammals. The eyes of most mammals have the same structure and function. They also come in pairs which helps to judge distance. Some have more cones than do others, just as some people have finer discrimination than others. The cones aid in sharp daytime vision and in telling colors apart. With good discrimination, we can tell in spiritual questions what is black (sin) and what is white (righteousness). But with poor discrimination, things start to look gray and we become confused about whether something is right or wrong. Most mammals are color-blind. Mammals that are active at night have large eyes with reflectors at the rear of the eye. The reflector is called the tapetum lucidum and helps them to see in the dark. If light strikes the eyes of these mammals at night a person can see eyeshine. Maybe the headlights on your car have shone on a cat’s eyes crossing the road. Have you noticed the eyeshine?

The servant who had been forgiven much had lost sight of the golden rule. Darkness of spiritual vision comes upon those who are unforgiving.

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Christ came to earth to pay a debt
He did not owe.

“He that demands mercy and shows none, ruins the bridge over which he himself is to pass.”
—Thomas Adams
“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined” (Isaiah 9:2).

May God help us to reflect the light of Jesus in this sin-darkened world.

The forgiven servant had seen a great light and should have reflected it to his servant.

Notice how animals that prey on other animals have eyes in the front of the head, like lions and wolves. Horses, cows, sheep, and deer have eyes at the sides of their head. This is God’s way to help them watch out for their enemies. “Take ye heed, watch and pray” (Mark 13:33).

Are you making good use of your spiritual vision? Remember that others may not always see things the way you do, just as the eyes of mammals view differently.

### Remind

1. As you work together as a family, let your chores remind you of your lesson.

2. A true servant not only forgives but reflects light like the eyes of some animals. How? By doing each chore carefully, speaking kindly and respectfully to one another and their elders.

### Reinforce

1. Look for mammals! Use your guide book to identify them.

2. Find a cat at night and especially notice its eyes.

3. Use two scenery pictures alike. Color one picture in shades of black and gray. Now color the other one in greens, blues, and so forth. Seeing in color is a blessing.

4. Find Bible verses on “serving” and copy a special one to put where you can see it often.

5. You might cover one eye and notice how it is more difficult to judge the distance of objects that you are not already familiar with.

6. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, *Children’s Bible Activities, Stories, and Poems*, for this quarter.

7. Say your memory verse!

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“The light of the body is the eye, if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.”
Matthew 6:22

The eye is a symbol of spiritual understanding.

“Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”
Psalm 119:18
Remarkable Parent Food

“When Brother D first engaged in the work of teaching the truth, he was little in his own eyes, and God used him as His instrument. But I saw that for some time in the past he has not humbled himself under the hand of God. He has trusted to his own wisdom and weak judgment, and Satan has been obtaining an advantage over him. Instead of relying solely upon God, and staying himself upon His strength, he has had his judgment perverted by the influence of his wife. She has stood in a position to see, to hear, to understand, all that was going on around her. Did she possess a sanctified judgment and heavenly wisdom, then would she see through sanctified eyes, and hear through sanctified ears. She has not done this. ‘Who is blind, but My servant? or deaf, as My messenger that I sent?’ God does not wish us to hear all that is to be heard, or to see all that is to be seen. It is a great blessing to close the ears, that we hear not, and the eyes, that we see not. The greatest anxiety should be to have clear eyesight to discern our own shortcomings, and a quick ear to catch all needed reproof and instruction, lest by our inattention and carelessness we let them slip and become forgetful hearers and not doers of the work.” (1 Testimonies 707-708)

70 x 7 Day 5
Read Matthew 18:31-34 and Christ’s Object Lessons 247-251.

The Unmerciful Debtor

“In the parable the lord summoned the unmerciful debtor, and ‘said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desirest me; shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.’ ‘So Likewise,’ said Jesus, ‘shall My Heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.’ He who refuses to forgive is thereby casting away his own hope of pardon.” (Christ’s Object Lessons 247)

“But the great lesson of the parable lies in the contrast between God’s compassion and man’s hardheartedness; in the fact that God’s forgiving mercy is to be the measure of our own. ‘Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee?’

“We are not forgiven because we forgive, but as we forgive. The ground of all forgiveness is found in the unmerited love of God, but by our attitude toward others we show whether we have made that love our own. Wherefore Christ says, ‘With what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again’ (Matthew 7:2).” (Christ’s Object Lessons 251)
Review

1. What did the man’s fellow servants do? (Matthew 18:31)
2. Then what did his lord do and say? (Matthew 18:32-33)
3. What did his lord do with him? (Matthew 18:34)

more quickly, and could endure starvation or cold conditions better than the other rats. In every way the petted rats were better in body and brain than the rats that had not been petted. It reminds me how the touch of Christ brings blessing and healing to body and mind. “And they brought young children unto him, that he should touch them” (Mark 10:13).

“A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel” (Proverbs 12:10).

“...Few realize as they should the sinfulness of abusing animals or leaving them to suffer from neglect. He who created man made the lower animals also, and ‘His tender mercies are over all His works’ (Psalm 145:9). The animals were created to serve man, but he has no right to cause them pain by harsh treatment or cruel exaction.” (Patriarchs and Prophets 443)

Nature

Touch

Mammals are sensitive to touch. They respond to the kindness of people. They have tactile nerves that are all over their bodies, which respond to touch. Some areas may have more of these nerves, such as whiskers on dogs and cats. These whiskers assist the animal when they move in the dark. Other mammals, like moles and gophers, have sensitive tails which help them when moving backwards in a narrow tunnel. The fingers on a raccoon’s paws have many tactile nerves. People are sensitive to kindness and touch. When we are forgiv ing it can touch the heart of the person who has wronged us. In order for us to be forgiving we must ourselves be “men whose hearts God has touched” (I Samuel 10:26).

The sense of touch is also important in another way. Animals like to be stroked. Remember how mammals are affectionate with their young? Experiments have shown that affection is important to the future well-being of a young animal. Two groups of rats were tested under the same conditions. The only difference was that one group was petted daily. After a time it was found that the petted rats learned
Remind

1. As you work together as a family, let your chores remind you of your lesson.

2. As you begin your list of chores for the day, stop, go to father and mother, touch them by giving them a big hug, and say, “Thank you for being such kind, forgiving parents to me.”

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Remarkable Parent Food

“To talk of religious things in a casual way, to pray for spiritual blessings without real soul hunger and living faith, avails little. The wondering crowd that pressed close about Christ realized no vital power from the contact. But when the poor, suffering woman, in her great need, put forth her hand and touched the hem of Jesus’ garment, she felt the healing virtue. Hers was the touch of faith. Christ recognized that touch, and He determined there to give a lesson for all His followers to the close of time. He knew that virtue had gone out of Him, and turning about in the throng He said: ‘Who touched My clothes?’ Surprised at such a question His disciples answered: ‘Thou seest the multitude thronging Thee, and sayest thou, Who touched Me?’

“Jesus fixed His eyes upon her who had done this. She was filled with fear. Great joy was hers, but had she overstepped her duty? Knowing what was done in her, she came trembling and fell at His feet and told Him all the truth. Christ did not reproach her. He gently said: ‘Go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.’

“Here was distinguished the casual contact from the touch of faith. Prayer and preaching, without the exercise of living faith in God, will be in vain. But the touch of faith opens to us the divine treasure house of power and wisdom and thus, through instruments of clay, God accomplishes the wonders of His grace.”

(5 Testimonies 227-228)

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Reinforce

1. Look for mammals! Use your guide book to identify them.

2. Spend some time playing with and petting your pet.

3. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, Children’s Bible Activities, Stories, and Poems, for this quarter.

Say your memory verse!

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I need a home!

Help me!
A Forgiving Spirit

“So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses” (Matthew 18:35).

“But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses’ (Matthew 6:15). Nothing can justify an unforgiving spirit. He who is unmerciful toward others shows that he himself is not a partaker of God’s pardoning grace. In God’s forgiveness the heart of the erring one is drawn close to the great heart of Infinite Love. The tide of divine compassion flows into the sinner’s soul, and from him to the souls of others. The tenderness and mercy that Christ has revealed in His own precious life will be seen in those who become sharers of His grace. But ‘if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His’ (Romans 8:9). He is alienated from God, fitted only for eternal separation from Him.” (Christ’s Object Lessons 251)

Nature Intelligence

What does the word intelligence mean? It is the ability to learn and to understand. Through learning, an animal stores information in its memory, then later it can use this information. Mammals can learn more than other kinds of animals. Some animals can learn by being trained, like chimpanzees, dogs, and dolphins.

The amount of surface area of the brain (especially the cerebral cortex) tells how much an animal can learn. In the more intelligent animals the cerebral cortex is quite large with many folds. One 13 year-old gorilla called Koko was taught to use sign language. She learned about 1,000 words. Koko became very fond of her cat and described him in sign language as “soft good cat cat” and herself as “fine animal gorilla.”

As intelligent humans, we can learn how to be forgiving and kind to others. This is an important character trait to learn.

Review

1. What happens if we do not have a forgiving spirit?

2. Now, what does it mean to forgive?

3. Do you have that kind of spirit?
### Remind

1. As you work together as a family, let your chores remind you of your lesson.

2. As you can learn to use the washing machine, and hammer, so likewise you can learn to be forgiving.

### Reinforce

1. Look for mammals! Use your guide book to identify them.

2. Teach your dog to bring your stick back after you throw it or to sit on command or to bring your slippers.

3. For individual activities, stories, and poems, use the booklet entitled, *Children’s Bible Activities, Stories, and Poems*, for this quarter.

4. Say your memory verse!

### Remarkable Parent Food

“In searching out the various parts and studying their relationship, the highest faculties of the human mind are called into intense activity. No one can engage in such study without developing mental power.

“And not alone in searching out truth and bringing it together does the mental value of Bible study consist. It consists also in the effort required to grasp the themes presented. The mind occupied with commonplace matters only, becomes dwarfed and enfeebled. If never tasked to comprehend grand and far-reaching truths, it after a time loses the power of growth. As a safeguard against this degeneracy, and a stimulus to development, nothing else can equal the study of God’s word. As a means of intellectual training, the Bible is more effective than any other book, or all other books combined. The greatness of its themes, the dignified simplicity of its utterances, the beauty of its imagery, quicken and uplift the thoughts as nothing else can. No other study can impart such mental power as does the effort to grasp the stupendous truths of revelation. The mind thus brought in contact with the thoughts of the Infinite cannot but expand and strengthen.” *(Education 124)*
Review

1. “Seventy Times Seven”
2. Forgiveness
3. Forgiving Debt
4. A Hundred Pence
5. The Unmerciful Debtor
6. A Forgiving Spirit

Dogs & Cats
Name them?
A Child’s Humble Confession and Prayer

A sinner, Lord, behold I stand,
    In thought, and word, and deed;
But Jesus sits at Thy right hand,
    For such to intercede.

From early infancy, I know,
    A rebel I have been,
And daily as I older grow,
    I fear I grow in sin:—

But God can change this evil heart,
    And give a holy mind,
And His own heavenly grace impart,
    Which those who seek shall find.

To heaven can reach the softest word—
    A child’s repenting prayer—
For tears are seen, and sighs are heard,
    And thoughts regarded there.

Then let me all my sins confess,
    And pard’ning grace implore;
That I may love my follies less,
    And love my Saviour more.

—Ann Taylor