



Use this guide to help your family learn about friendship.

First, watch this week's video at [kidscity.org](https://www.kidscity.org)

Friendship:
Using your words and actions to show others you care

Memory Verse

"A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes."
Proverbs 17:17, NIV

Bible Story

Two People Are Better Than One
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Key Question

What makes someone a good friend?

Activity

Looking for Lyrics

What You Need:

Paper, writing utensil

What You Do:

Copy down the following song titles on a separate sheet of paper:

"Count on Me" by Bruno Mars
"Happy" by Pharrell Williams
"A Whole New World" from *Aladdin*
"Something Just Like This" by Coldplay
"We Don't Talk About Bruno" from *Encanto*

Say to your child, "I'll read off a lyric to a song. You'll look at the list of song titles and choose which title you think the lyric comes from. Ready?"

A new fantastic point of view. No one to tell us, "No," or where to go, or say we're only dreaming. (Answer: "A Whole New World" from *Aladdin*)

It might seem crazy what I'm 'bout to say. Sunshine, she's here, you can take a break. (Answer: "Happy" by Pharrell Williams)

If you tossin' and you're turnin' and you just can't fall asleep, I'll sing a song beside you. (Answer: "Count on Me" by Bruno Mars)

He told me that the life of my dreams would be promised, and someday be mine. (Answer: "We Don't Talk About Bruno" from *Encanto*)

How much you want to risk? I'm not looking for somebody with some superhuman gifts. (Answer: "Something Just Like This" by Coldplay)

When you're finished, say, "You did a great job choosing the right title for each of set of lyrics! Today, we heard why it's so important to choose carefully when it comes to our friends."

Talk About the Bible Story

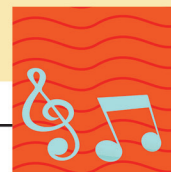
Why are friendships important?

Think about the closest friends you have. What makes each of them a good friend to you?

Why do you think they've chosen to be friends with you?

Is it difficult to choose friends carefully?

Parent: Talk about how one of your friends encourages you to be more like Jesus. They may encourage you with Bible verses, set an example of doing what Jesus would do, or pray with you. Go beyond generalities and tell your child about a specific example.



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, thank You for being our Friend. Please show us how we can choose our friends carefully. Right now, we want to pray for the friends You've given us. We pray that they would all know how much You love them and how much You want to be their friend too. Help us to be a good friend to them. Amen."



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Bible Story

Forgive One Another
Colossians 3:13

Key Question

Why is forgiveness important?

Activity

Bursting with Unforgiveness

What You Need:

Balloon

What You Do:

Invite your child to do an activity with you.

Say, "This activity will help us understand what happens when we don't forgive others. I want you to think about your friends. I'll give you time to list some things your friends have done that have annoyed you or hurt your feelings. Every time you name something, I'll blow some air into this balloon. Ready?"

Allow your child to name different times their friends have annoyed or hurt them. With each new situation they mention, blow into the balloon. If the balloon isn't very big by the time they finish, share a few times a friend has hurt or annoyed you, and continue to blow into the balloon until it looks like it's ready to burst.

When you're finished, say, "When we don't forgive, our hearts start to feel like this balloon—like they're so full of anger that they could just burst! Do you want to see what it looks like when we forgive?"

Little by little, let the air out of the balloon until it's deflated.

"When we forgive others, it's not just good for THEIR hearts, but it's good for OUR hearts too. Remember, friends forgive one another."

(Be sure to also take a moment to explain that there are times when if someone continuously does things that hurt us, we also have to protect ourselves. Forgiveness does not always mean we maintain a relationship with the person who has repeatedly wronged us. When this happens, we can still choose to forgive, while also creating healthy boundaries that keep us safe.)

Talk About the Bible Story

Have you ever had to forgive someone?

Why is it sometimes difficult to forgive?

Why is forgiveness important?

How has God forgiven us?

Is there anyone you need to forgive right now?

Parent: Tell your child about a time you forgave a friend, even if it was hard. The friend may have said or done something that hurt your feelings, broken a promise, or lied to you. Tell how God gave you peace after you chose to forgive. And if appropriate, tell how God used your forgiveness to repair the friendship.



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, thank You for being there for us always. We can talk to You about anything, and You are there to help us. You are our very best Friend! Thank You for forgiving us, always. Help us to be quick to forgive our friends, just as You are quick to forgive us. We love You. Amen."