

When Large Group ends, please return to small group to Respond in Worship using this guide and the “Kid Take Home Sheet” for the next 5 weeks. Not every kid will have the Red Letter Challenge devotional book, so this gives us a chance to let every parent participate in focusing their kids’ hearts on the main theme for each week! Look below to see exactly how you’ll use the “Kids Take Home Sheets” before sending them home.

Theme

Look here to see which of the 5 key areas are we focusing on each week. (*Week 1: Intro to ALL themes, then Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving, and ending week 6 with Going*)

Bible Verse

Each week, please read the Bible Verse aloud to your small group. Remind them their parents will have the same verse in their devotion book! Encourage them to learn it with their family!

Big Idea

This section is the driving question for the theme of the week. Ask kids to share their responses as you think through why it’s important to learn to imitate Jesus in each area. This section is the reminder about who we are aiming to become as we spend time with Jesus.

A weekly “Take Home Sheet” will go home with kids to review with their parents. Each week, you will lead your small group kids through the “Do This Now” section during our “Responding in Worship” part of our service. Our intention is to help kids prepare their hearts and focus on how they can respond to what God wants to do in their lives through the Red Letter Challenge. The parent take home sheet offers an easy transition into the focus of the week whether kids are using the RLC Kids book, or not!

Do This Now:

This is a non-negotiable part of our service each week as we set our parents up for success as they dive into the Red Letter Challenge for Kids. By introducing our kids to a response portion, we help them have something to immediately share with their parents about what they are looking forward to with the RLC.

Each week, tell kids to *“Take this home and show your parents your responses!”*

The last section is a note directly to the parents. We want them to remember that the RLC can be completed with their kids!

Dear Parents:

In the Red Letter Challenge, we are asking parents to complete specific challenges with their kids. This section will always encourage them to review what their kid responded while they were in small group with you so they can continue the conversation at home!



Theme

FORGIVING like Jesus

Bible Verse

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

Big Idea

Why is FORGIVING like Jesus important?

***DO THIS NOW:**

On the back of this paper, choose one of the areas below to write or draw about as you prepare your heart to forgive others and to receive the forgiveness that God offers you.

- Write one sin that you need help to stop doing. Who can help you?
- Write some sins you are angry at someone else about. When will you forgive them?
- Write a list of sins you have done and want to ask for forgiveness for. Tell God sorry and accept His forgiveness.
- Write the name of someone you need to say "I forgive you" to. When will you tell them?
- Write the name of someone you need to say "I am sorry" to. When will you tell them?

Dear Parents:

Forgiveness is the theme this week! Sometimes kids find it easier to forgive than adults do! Forgiveness is something we start teaching our kids at a young age, because we can all understand what it feels like to be hurt by someone.

Forgiveness is something that is so easy to talk about, but really hard to actually do. For kids, we start with the importance of obedience before understanding. We don't always understand completely how forgiveness works, or even why we need to forgive, but actually saying the words out loud and telling kids not to seek revenge is the first steps in the lifelong lesson of practicing forgiveness.

Parents, modeling asking for and giving forgiveness is a powerful teaching tool for our kids. This week, please share your own personal stories of how you've been hurt and had to forgive. Use everyday events like someone cutting you off on the road or a mistake at a restaurant or even times when you have to break a promise you made to your child to talk through forgiveness. We forgive our children, and sometimes our children have to forgive us! When offenses happen in a family, use those as starting points to talk about forgiveness and healing.

Challenge: Flip this paper over and read your kid's responses. Notice the areas they are struggling in. How can you help them take steps toward true repentance? What guardrails can you put in place to help them not commit the same sins repeatedly?

Notice if they did not respond in writing. Ask them the same questions aloud and listen for ways you can support them in giving or receiving forgiveness this week.

