



WEEK 5

PREK-1ST LESSON GUIDE

REVEALED

BIG IDEA

God forgives me.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Talks About Forgiveness: Luke 7:40-50;

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | My Shoes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use four pairs of adult shoes or ask the kids to take off their shoes. Put the shoes in a pile on the floor. Tell the kids to find shoes that are not theirs and hold them.
- You have shoes that are not your own. **Do you think it would be fair to keep shoes that are not yours?** No, you should find who the shoes belong to.
- Guide the kids to help give the shoes to the kid they belong to (If you used adult shoes, pretend they are all yours).
- If you take something on purpose that belongs to someone else, we hope they'll be kind to you and forgive you.
- Our Bible story today is about how God will forgive you.

ACTIVITY | Find the Money

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, hide paper play money in the room. Ask the kids to find the paper money.
- You did a great job finding all of the money I hid in the room!
- Our Bible story will be about money today. People use money to buy the things they need like food or clothes. You can also use money to buy fun things like candy or toys.



TEACHING TIME

THE BIG IDEA | God forgives me.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, write each word of the Big Idea on a separate sheet of colorful paper. Put the words on the floor for the kids to hop on. Get the kids to say each word as they hop on the words.*
- Today's Big Idea is: **God forgives me.**

VIDEO | Revealed, Episode 5

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's preschool [teaching video](#).*

BIBLE STORY | Luke 7:40-50

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Hold your Bible on your lap as you tell the Bible story. Put a handful of paper play money on the floor in front of you.*
- Jesus was teaching friends one day and told them there were two people that owed a man money.
- One person owed the man a lot of money (*Pat the pile of play money*).
- The second person owed the man a little bit of money (*Show just one of the dollars*).
- But both of the men that owed money couldn't pay it back.
- The man that the people owed money to chose to say, "You don't have to pay me back." He forgave the people that owed him money.
- The person that owed just a little tiny bit of money was happy that the man forgave him. Maybe he smiled. **Show me your happy smile.**
- The person that owed a lot of money was excited, super happy, and maybe he danced and cheered. **Show me an excited, super happy dance.**
- There was a woman there with Jesus and his friends that was happy to be forgiven, too. She was so happy, she washed Jesus' feet with sweet smelling perfume.
- When people know they are forgiven, it makes them happy.
- I am happy **God forgives me.**
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Give the kids a shallow pan of water to play in. As they play, read them the Bible story. Tell the kids that the woman was happy Jesus forgave her, that she washed his feet!*

ACTIVITY | A Little or A Lot

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, gather pennies, jingle bells, and beads, to separate out in six empty water bottles. In each pair of bottles, put two objects in one bottle and the rest of the objects in the other bottle. Let the kids explore the six bottles and talk with them about which has a lot and which has a little.*
- Our Bible story was about a little and a lot.
- (*Shake the bottle with two pennies/bells/beads.*) This bottle has a little bit of pennies.
- (*Shake the bottle with a lot of pennies/bells/beads.*) This bottle has a lot of pennies.
- **Is having a LOT of something good or bad? Why do you think that?**



PRAYER

- Dear God, I am so happy You forgive me. I am so super excited You love me. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

ACTIVITY | Sweet Smelling Oranges

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Help the kids peel their own mandarin oranges for a snack.*
- These oranges smell so sweet and nice just like the nice smelling perfume in our Bible

ACTIVITY | Spending Money

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set up a play store with paper play money for the kids to pretend with. Add things like plastic play food, a cash register, and paper grocery bags.*
- When you play store, you can tell someone how much money they need to pay. **Did the person who owed a lot of money in our Bible story have to pay it back?** No, he didn't. The man forgave him.
- **Did the person who owed just a little bit of money have to pay it back?** No, he didn't. The man forgave him, too.
- **Were the people happy the man forgave them?** Yes, they were happy.
- I am happy **God forgives me.**
- story today.
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Try this with your toddlers. Add a bit of vanilla to some edible play dough for the kids to play with. Talk about how nice the dough smells, just like the perfume the woman used for Jesus!*

MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 33:3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Say the memory verse together a couple times. Then, start saying the verse, but pause randomly and prompt the kids to supply the word that comes next. Repeat as many times as desired, stopping at different places!*

This week would be the week the kids would have the opportunity to say them verse from memory. Once they say the verse, they get to pick a treat from the goodie box. You could do something similar at home.

CALL TO ME AND I WILL ANSWER YOU AND TELL YOU GREAT AND UNSEARCHABLE THINGS YOU DO NOT KNOW. JEREMIAH 33:3

PLAY TIME



ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a coloring page, plus markers or crayons. Add a scented marker or a dot of perfume to each kid's coloring page. As they color, remind them of all the times God has forgiven them.

ACTIVITY | Coin Rubbings

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, secure coins to the tabletop using double-sided tape or glue dots. Place a sheet of paper over the coins and show the kids how to use a crayon to rub over the paper to make coin rubbings. Supervise all coin play carefully.
- You can make a picture that looks like these coins.
- These little coins are money. Our Bible story is about how the people owed money, but the man said they didn't have to pay him back. The man forgave the people just like God forgives us.

ACTIVITY | Sweet Smells

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, put different perfumes onto cotton balls for the kids to smell.
- This perfume smells sweet and nice. **Which one do you like the best?**
- The woman in the story gave Jesus her favorite perfume to say thank you.
 - **TODDLER HACK:** Lightly spray a blanket with sweet smelling perfume (or even a deodorizer like Febreze) and invite the kids to snuggle and smell the blanket. Tell them about how the woman in the story showed that she was happy that Jesus forgave her by putting sweet smelling perfume on His feet.



WEEK 5

2ND-5TH LESSON GUIDE

REVEALED

BIG IDEA

God forgives me.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Talks About Forgiveness: Luke 7:40-50;
(Romans 3:23; Hebrews 10:17)

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

ACTIVITY | "I'm Sorry, It's Okay"

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This is basically a variation of "Marco Polo." Ask one kid to wear a blindfold and try to find the rest of the group. The student that is "it" says, "I'm sorry," and the rest of the group has to say, "It's okay!" The game continues until the kid that is "it" finds everyone. Another way to play would be to have only one or two kids at a time run away/hide.*
- **When are sometimes we tell someone we're sorry? Why do we say, "It's okay" when someone says they're sorry?** Often, we say, "I'm sorry" and "It's okay" because we must, and not because we really want or offer forgiveness. Today, we are going to learn what God wants us to know about forgiveness.

ACTIVITY | Gold Rush

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, hide a lot of "treasure" (such as the gold coins from last week's Bible story, pennies, gold foil candies, flat metallic beads, metal buttons, etc.) around your space.*
- Guess what? Today, we have a treasure hunt for you! That's right — you get to find oodles and oodles of treasure. But I don't have any treasure! So, anytime I come to any of you and say, "May I borrow some treasure?" you have to give me five pieces of treasure!



- **Did you think it was fair that I asked you for your treasure? How come?**
- **How did you feel when I didn't give it back after I "borrowed" it?**
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Let your preteens hide the coins. They could even be the ones to go around and ask kids for their treasure, to make it more interesting.*

POLL | I-O-U

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Prepare a few of the following items (or images of them): LEGO blocks, different kinds of candy, or slime. (These can double as prizes for later, if you'd like!)*
- *Let's pretend someone borrowed a hundred dollars from you but couldn't pay you back. Instead, they said they could give you a lifetime supply of the following: LEGO, candy, or slime. Which would you choose? Why?*

THE BIG IDEA | God forgives me.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tell the kids you are celebrating something. If there's no obvious celebration to hold, pick a silly made-up holiday or say it's "Just Because" day. Pull out a beautiful tray of delicious cupcakes or a similar treat with lots of fanfare and pomp. Then, find a silly excuse to turn your back for a moment, and while your back is turned, have a pre-designated grownup helper dramatically take one of the cupcakes and signal for the kids not to tell you. When you turn back and discover one is gone, you — in an exaggerated way — try to get to the bottom of it. After a minute or two, have your teammate "fess up" to what they did.*
- *Say, "I wish you hadn't taken my cupcake, but I do forgive you. Thank you for being honest with me."*
- *Now, get pretend-distracted by something else (the helper could even create a distraction), and while your back is turned this time, have another grownup helper take the whole tray of cupcakes. When you turn back around, be astonished the cupcakes are missing. The helper could be hiding them or even standing behind everyone eating one. After another exaggerated search, the helper should admit to taking them. Thank the kids for their patience and give them cupcakes (always be advised of allergies within the group!).*
- *Say, "It makes me feel sad that you (helper) took all of those special cupcakes. But I still forgive you. Because God forgives me when I do something wrong, too. And that's today's Big Idea! **God forgives me.**"*
- *[Optional: You can bake a piece of paper into the cupcakes and have the helper "choke" on one of the stolen cupcakes that contains a piece of paper that has the Big Idea written on it!]*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Contact a few of your preteens ahead of time and meet the day before to bake the cupcakes together (you could even involve parents to help)! Also recruit one or two preteens, instead of a leader, to be the ones who sneakily takes the cupcakes during the Big Idea reveal.*
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Many kids with special needs are on a special diet or have severe allergies. Make sure you check with their parents before handing them cupcakes. Have other options ready that is compliant to students' diet, if possible.*



SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

VIDEO | Revealed, Episode 5

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#).

BIBLE STORY | Luke 7:40-50.

- Let's say I borrowed one dollar from one of you. **Who wants to pretend to lend me a dollar** (Select a volunteer)? Okay, thank you, _____. So, I took this dollar from ____ and I used it, but then I couldn't pay him/her back because I didn't have any money. Would s/he be annoyed? Probably. But it's only a dollar. S/he would probably even say I didn't have to pay her/him back. But let's say I borrowed \$100 from that same person. And I spent it on stuff I didn't even need. **What would you be more upset about, the one dollar or the \$100?** But then let's say that ____ said not to pay him/her back at all! **What's more shocking – letting go of one dollar or \$100?**
- The people in today's Bible story were upset at the woman because they thought she wasn't a very good person, and she was taking up so much of Jesus' time and attention. **But what did Jesus say to that?** Jesus makes the point that the person who had been forgiven for a bigger thing (like owing more money) would be even more grateful than the person who had been forgiven for a smaller thing (like owing less money). Jesus knew the woman really needed a lot of forgiveness, and she was so thankful Jesus gave it to her!
- **Have you ever done something wrong or hurt someone and then felt bad about it?** That's because even though God made us for greatness, sometimes we mess up and do things God doesn't want us to do. That's why we all need God to forgive us. And the good news is, God does!

ACTIVITY | Worst Kept Secret

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each group a small canvas or white art paper and ask the kids to write "God forgives me" with a white crayon in whatever way they want on the canvas. Afterward, ask the kids to paint everywhere on the canvas (Markers are an acceptable alternative, but paint is more exciting and dramatic). Hang the complete Big Idea reveal art up to dry.
- I know we made the hidden message pop out of canvas/paper using paint, but it really is no secret. **God forgives us.** And we should let everyone know it!
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Model to the students with special needs precisely how to do each step of this activity. Help them to have fun with their artwork and engage students in conversation to talk about what they drew. Prompt other students and peer buddies to make encouraging comments about everyone's art.

ACTIVITY | Practice Forgiveness

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print out the Week 5 printable and cut it out. Put each of the pieces of paper into a hat or a container. Have kids take turns picking a piece of paper and



describing what they would say and/or do to show true forgiveness in each of the situations.

- **Which of these situations was the hardest for you to forgive? Which was the easiest? Why?**
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Take your discussion further by asking some additional thought-provoking questions: What makes the difference in how much someone is grateful for being forgiven?; What makes the difference in how hard or easy it is to forgive someone?; Explain what "forgiveness" means without using the word "forgive."*

SCRIPTURE | Romans 3:23; Hebrews 10:17

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Romans 3:23*
- Yes, it's sad that everyone sins. But God found a way to forgive us of all our sins by sending Jesus to save us. And once we receive God's forgiveness, the Bible says (*read Hebrews 10:17*). That's right – God's not even going to remember our wrongdoing. Isn't that amazing?

NOW WHAT? *What does God want us to do about it?*

REFLECTION | Forgiveness for What?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Put some soft music on in the background: You could ask a musician within your ministry to play live, or even pick some classical pieces, like [Bach's Chorale Cantatas](#), to play quietly. Invite the kids to move around the room a little bit and tell them they get three minutes to think about things they want to ask God to forgive. Offer examples beforehand. God can forgive when we are mean to our siblings, when we don't respect our guardians, when we cheat on a quiz or test, when we lie to a friend. Give kids a few minutes to think about what they need God to forgive them for.*
- No matter how good we are, we still mess up. When we think about it, we can all think of things we do that hurt God and hurt people and even hurt ourselves. So, we need forgiveness, don't we? This is why our Big Idea today is so important. God forgives me and God forgives you, too!
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *It's possible you may find it difficult to engage kids with special needs in this reflection activity, but don't get discouraged! Even though they may not follow exactly, your words never return void. In activities like this, 1) present clear, explicit directions, 2) let them know what they're expected to do, 3) model how to do it, 4) guide them at each step of the activity.*

ACTIVITY | Forgive and Forget

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Now, invite the kids to write their responses to the previous reflection activity on pieces of dissolve paper and help younger kids write theirs. After everyone has finished, have the kids take turns submerging their papers into a bowl of water and watching the paper dissolve to show God will forgive our sins!*



REVEALED | WEEK 5 ELEMENTARY LESSON

- Remember we just read in Hebrews 10:17 that God will no longer remember the things we did wrong once we are forgiven? And unlike us, who likes to remember every wrong thing someone has ever done to us, God keeps that promise of "forgive and forget." Take a moment to thank God for not holding our mistakes against us!
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** Repeat this activity, but this time, have them write down something someone else did or said about them that they need to forgive. Say, "Just like how Jesus forgives and forgets our sins, let's do the same for people who need our forgiveness."

PRAYER

- God, thank You for forgiving us. We are sorry for the stuff we do that makes You sad. We are sorry for the times we are mean, or we lie, or we cheat. Thanks for always forgiving us and helping us stay away from the things that do not please You.

MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 33:3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split your kids into two teams (or choose two kids to play up front). Ask them to go back and forth, quoting the verse one word at a time. The first person to forget a word is out.

This week would be the week the kids would have the opportunity to say them verse from memory. Once they say the verse, they get to pick a treat from the goodie box. You could do something similar at home.

CALL TO ME AND I WILL ANSWER YOU AND TELL YOU GREAT AND
UNSEARCHABLE THINGS YOU DO NOT KNOW. JEREMIAH 33:3

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- Why were the people in the story mad at the woman?
- Why do you think the woman was so happy and grateful to be around Jesus?
- Why did Jesus tell the story of the two men who owed different amounts of money?
- Re-read Romans 3:23. Who needs God's forgiveness?
- How does it feel when you know you've done something wrong or hurt someone?
- Describe a time when you needed forgiveness.
- Why do you think forgiveness is important?

ACTIVITY | Shine a Light

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Make double-sided photocopies of the printable provided in your Week 5 'printables' folder. Inside the empty bill on the front side, ask the kids to draw a picture of themselves in pencil. They could color the drawing using colored pencils if they'd like. Be sure not to use markers! Then, have them hold their drawing up to the light, or use a flashlight or cell phone light. The word "FORGIVEN" should appear!
- This week, any time you make a mistake or do something wrong, stop and tell God you are sorry. Make sure you always say, "Thank you," because God will forgive you!

Your little sister broke your favorite toy.

Your friend didn't stick up for you when someone teased you.

Your friend made fun of your new haircut.

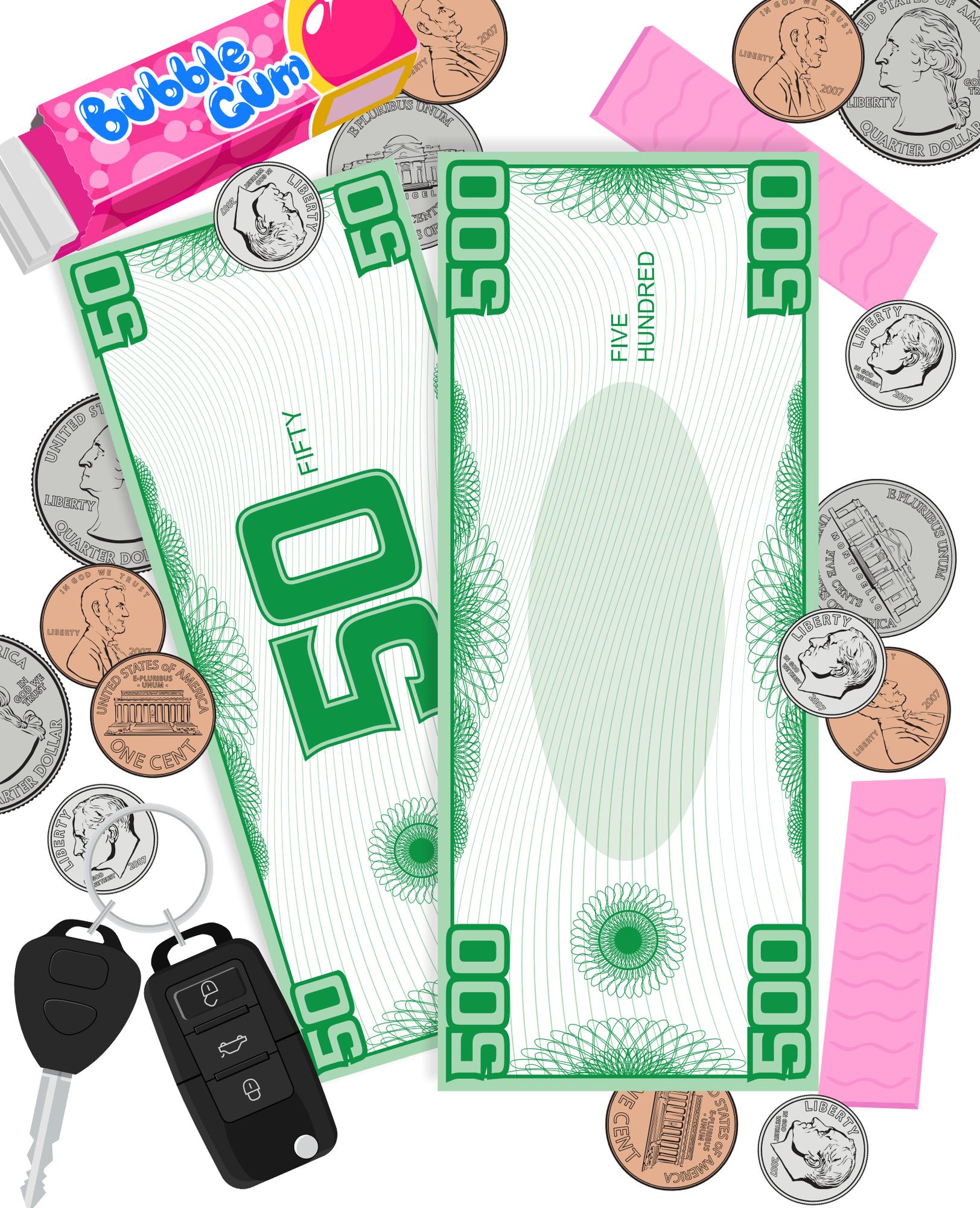
Your parents accidentally threw away something you've been collecting for months.

Somebody bumped into you and caused you to spill milk all over yourself.

A classmate took all the credit for your group project when it was actually your idea.

Your brother tattled on you about something to your parents and you got in trouble.

Your best friend started hanging out with the new kid and spends less time with you.



FORGIVEN