

# march 20<sup>th</sup>

Parent Guide

**need to know:** God Shows Us Mercy

**bible story:** The Forgiving King

**bible reference:** Matthew 18:21-35

## circle up

---

*Use this time to gather and get everyone talking. Let your kids know that this is safe place for them to share their feelings, emotions, and questions.*

- For your elementary-aged kids, ask them about the best part of their week. Allow space for them to share a hard part of their week if they would like. For your preschool-aged kids, have them draw something fun from their week.
- **ASK: Describe what kind of castle you would have if you were a king or a queen.** Preschool kids can draw a picture of a castle if they want.



## watch

---

*Watch today's Elementary and/or Preschool video on [tpcc.org/kids-messages](http://tpcc.org/kids-messages) or on the Traders Point Kids YouTube channel.*

ASK your Elementary Schooler:

- **In the video, we heard a story from the Bible about a king and his servant who owed him money. How did the king show the servant mercy?** (forgave his debt)
- **How did the servant respond? Did he show mercy to others?** (No, he didn't show mercy to the other servant who owed him money.)
- **How would you have responded if someone forgave you for owing them a lot of money?**
- **Do you think you can show this type of mercy to other people in your life? How?**

ASK your Preschooler:

- **How did the King show love to his helper?** (by forgiving him and not making him pay back the money he owed)
- **Who shows us love all the time?** (Jesus)
- **What can we show to others?** (love)



**march 20<sup>th</sup>**

Parent Guide

**need to know:** God Shows Us Mercy

**bible story:** The Forgiving King

**bible reference:** Matthew 18:21-35

## have fun together

---

*From playing to praying together, have fun learning more about God!*

- For your preschool kids, help them DRAW several hearts on a piece of paper. Ask them who they would like to show love to this week and then write those names inside of the hearts. Have your child color in the hearts on the sheet. Then you can hang the sheet up somewhere that they can see it every day (i.e. in the kitchen, by their bed, etc.). Take some time each day to look at the paper together and remind your child who they can show love to. PRAY together for the names on the sheet.
- For your elementary kids, play a game of “Would You Rather?” Below are some questions to get you started, but feel free to take turns making up questions to ask each other. Use this time to ask more follow-up questions with your kids (“Why did you choose that option? What do you not like about the other option?”). As your kids get older, their tastes and interests will change, and even a simple game like this one can help you recognize when those shifts might be happening.  
PRAY together as a family. Ask for any prayer requests from your kids. Encourage them to pray out loud if they feel comfortable doing so.
  - **Would you rather be a prince/princess or a knight?**
  - **Would you rather shoot an arrow in the forest or take dance lessons in a castle?**
  - **Would you rather battle a dragon or ride a horse across a drawbridge?**
  - **Would you rather attend a royal ball or ride in a magical carriage?**
  - **Would you rather live in a castle full of dragons or live in a castle full of mice?**

