

## International Conversation Cafe

Foxtrot English:            Forgiveness

### **Game:** Backpack Scavenger Hunt

Divide the group into smaller groups of 4-6. Give each group the same list of things for them to look for in their backpacks: coins, mirror, pencil, candy, notepaper, paper clip, etc. This is a race so when the director says, "Go," everyone looks through their backpacks to locate the items on the list. The first to find all the items is the winner.

Idioms: read the idioms and see if you can make up your own sentences using them.

**Forgive and forget-** to forgive someone and not talk or think about it again. *Rodriguez decided to forgive and forget the student for missing the assignment.*

**Pardon me-** a way of apologizing. *"Pardon me. I did not mean to interrupt you."*

**Nurse a grudge-** an unwillingness to forgive. *Magaly continued to nurse a grudge against Manuel for ignoring her at the concert.*

### **Bible Story- Forgiveness**

To forgive means that we no longer feel angry and sad because of how another person hurt us. We no longer attempt to "get even" or hurt them in return. Paul gives us these instructions in his letter to the Romans, chapter 12.

Don't pay back evil with evil. Be careful to do what everyone thinks is right. If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can.

*What does it mean to pay back evil with evil? Can you give an example?*

Paul continues,

My dear friends, don't try to get even. Leave room for God to show his anger. It is written, "I am the God who judges people. I will pay them back," says the Lord. Do just the opposite.

*What does it mean to "get even?"*

*Why don't we have to worry about getting even?*

Scripture says, "Don't let evil overcome you. Overcome evil by doing good."

*How can we overcome evil?*

*Is it possible to do good to those that hurt you? Can you give an example?*

Though we know we should forgive, how do we get that feeling in our hearts? The answer has to do with the Holy Spirit. When a person believes in Jesus, God gives them the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives inside us to give us good attitudes and reminds us of God's words when we ask him.

Galatians 5: 14-16, 22-23 The whole law can be found in a single command. "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

You must not keep on biting each other. You must not keep eating each other up. Watch out! You might destroy each other.

So I say, live by the Holy Spirit's power. Then you will not do what your sinful nature wants you to do.

But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.

*What is the "single command?" Give an example of loving your neighbor as yourself?*

*What do you think it means to "eat each other up?"*

*Name some attitudes the Holy Spirit gives.*

*What kind of attitude do you think we need to have toward God so that we can have the attitudes given by the Holy Spirit?*

**Song:** Overcome Evil With Good Romans 12:21

Music and arrangement by Steve Green <http://www.stevegreenministries.org>

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Do not be overcome by evil.

Repeat once

With good, with good,

Overcome evil with good.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-ixREDvHG8>



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