



## **BELIEFS IN ACTION: WHY IS FORGIVENESS SO IMPORTANT TO CHRISTIANS?**

RE:quest is full of amazing resources which will help you get a better understanding of Christianity. This project will look at how Christian beliefs affect their actions. We will look at forgiveness by taking a close look at what the Bible says on the subject.

Use the 'Christian Beliefs in Action - Forgiveness' PDF and complete the tasks set on this sheet.

**STARTER:** A Moment in Time.

Look at the photo on the PDF and answer the questions here:

What might have happened before the photo was taken?

What might be happening now?

What may happen after? Think of two possible outcomes.

Which of these two things do you think is the best? Why?

**UNPACKING FORGIVENESS:** After watching the video answer the questions:

What is forgiveness?

What does the presenter mean when she says that 'forgiveness was more than just words'?

What does the other presenter mean when he says that 'forgiveness is all about freedom'?

What happens when we don't forgive?

Why does the Bible speak about forgiving those who hurt and offend us?

Why does the presenter say Christians should forgive others?

How is choosing not to forgive people like choosing to hold onto a pin?

**ACTIVITY:** Read/watch the 'Parable of the Lost Son'

Watch the modern-day retelling of this story.

Create a list of the key people and events in this parable. Use the grid below.

| <b>CHARACTERS:</b> | <b>KEY EVENTS:</b> |
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**ACTIVITY:**

Summarise the story in your own words using a maximum of 100 words here:

**BREAK IT DOWN:**

Who does the father represent?

Who does the lost son represent?

What does this parable teach us about forgiveness?

How does this parable show us that forgiveness is important to God?

**BELIEF IN ACTION:**

These ladies lost members of their family the day of the shooting in 2015. Explain why they decided to forgive.

What would have happened if they didn't forgive? Would it have a negative effect on them? How?

How did their faith help them?

Who benefits the most from forgiveness? The person hurt or the person causing the hurt? Why?

**ACTIVITY:** Write a letter to your local MP, Mr Ivor Temper. In the letter you should explain exactly why you think the ban on forgiveness is a bad idea. Make sure you include:

- At least 3 reasons you disagree with the new law
- Reference to the Parable of the Lost Son
- The benefits of forgiveness

**REWIND:** Write a new outcome for the photo from a Christian viewpoint.

What's going to happen next?

Why?

**PLENARY:** How could what you have learnt today change things:

At your school?

In your family?

Across the world?

**EXTENSION ACTIVITY:** Create an acrostic poem around this subject:

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