

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE FIFTH PETITION

ACTIVITY

HE PAID THE PRICE

Theme: We often fail to forgive as God asks. But God leads us to forgive others by taking away our sins through Christ.

Materials: Scrap paper, a pretend check, a red pen

Procedure: (15 minutes)

Have each student list things he or she did wrong that day. (They do not necessarily have to name the sins; they could just put marks on a page.) Then have each student list things he or she should have done but didn't. Say, **Imagine going into debt by \$1 for every sin committed each day.** Have the students multiply their tally of sins by the 365 days in a year. Then have them multiply this number by the number of years in their lives. Remind the students that these numbers only represent the sins they remember! Now total up the sins of the class. Bring out the check, and write in the amount totaled by the students. Ask, **Which one of you would like to sign your name to this check in order to cover this debt? Could you ever hope to pay off such an amount?** Now sign Jesus' name on the check and say, **When Christ died on the cross, He paid the price of all your sins. You may think that it is too costly to cover the sins of others and to forgive their sins. But rather than counting the sins of others, you can count on the forgiveness of Jesus both for yourself and others.** Stress that Jesus' forgiveness empowers us to forgive others, just as we have been forgiven.