



DEEPER BIBLE Clean It Up!

[15 min]

Supplies

- Bible
- wet wipes
- classroom objects

Easy Prep

- Bring out any toys or other classroom objects that could use a good cleaning. Spread the objects throughout the room so kids have plenty of space to work. If nothing in your room has a noticeable need for cleaning, you can use washable markers to make marks on tables, chairs, or toys for kids to wipe off.

Clean Up

Say: **Today we're learning that we are forgiven. When we make wrong choices, it hurts our hearts and it hurts our friendship with God. But because of God's great love, Jesus came to clean the wrong choices from our hearts so we can be his friends. Then God chooses not to remember those wrong choices anymore. That's called forgiveness. Listen to what the Bible promises!** Read aloud 1 John 1:9.

Say: **Let's clean up our room while we think about Jesus cleaning up our hearts.**

Form leader-led groups, and give a wet wipe to each child. Direct leaders to different parts of the room. Leaders can point out any messiness on toys, tables, chairs, or anything else in the room that needs cleaning and encourage kids to wipe them clean. Be sure to have plenty of wet wipes on hand as kids need new ones.

Encourage leaders to point out how clean things look as kids finish cleaning them.

Talk About Forgiveness

Say: **You did a great job getting our room clean today. It's nice when things are clean.**

Share about something that's important for *you* to have clean, such as your bathroom, your car, or your kitchen.

Ask: • **Tell about something *you* don't like to be dirty.** Kids may say they don't like dirty hands, any spots on a plate or cup, or dirt on a special toy.
Say: **We can clean lots of things, but we can't get our hearts clean on our own. We need Jesus to come and take all our wrong choices away. Jesus forgives us and makes our hearts clean. We are forgiven!** Lead kids to pray and thank God for making their hearts clean.



OBJECT LESSON

God Knows, God Forgives

[10 min]

Supplies

- Go Fish game cards or other picture cards, such as shape flash cards (1 deck of cards for each adult or teen leader)
- rubber bands

Easy Prep

- Make sure all the cards in each deck are stacked facedown. Then turn the bottom card of each deck faceup, and replace it at the bottom of the deck. Use a rubber band to keep the cards together and in order.





- Connect with your adult or teen leaders as kids are arriving, and quickly show them how they'll perform this trick later for the kids. The steps are found below. It's very easy to learn!

Tip

- If you don't have any or enough cards in your stored supplies, you can find affordable Go Fish or simple flash cards at dollar stores and department stores.

Watch a Card Trick

Say: **Today we're learning that we are forgiven. If God forgives us for *everything* we do wrong, then that means God knows about *everything* we do wrong—even times no one else is looking and we might think "Whew, I'm the only one who knows!" Let's see what it's like when a person knows something that you think *only you* know.**

- Form small, leader-led groups, and give each leader a prepared deck of cards.
- Have groups sit in circles. Leaders can invite the child in his or her group who's wearing the most colorful clothing to choose a card first.
- Have leaders do the following steps to complete the card trick for each child in their group, or until a child figures out how the trick works can call out the answer:
 - Step 1: Being careful not to reveal the overturned card at the bottom of the deck, fan the deck out to allow a child to select and pull out one card.



- Step 2: Tell the child to carefully study his or her card to lock it in memory and keep you from seeing what's on the card.
- Step 3: While the child is focused on his or her card, subtly flip the deck over so the overturned card that was on the bottom of the deck is now on top of the deck and all the cards below are faceup. Then push the cards back together so the deck appears to be the same as when the card was pulled.



- Step 4: Invite the child to carefully slide his or her card back into the deck, facedown so you can't see it.



- Step 5: Turn your back to everyone so no one can see how you find the chosen card. Flip the deck over once more and fan the cards out. The chosen card will be the only card now facing up, so you can remove it from the deck, return the deck to the Step 1 position, and then present the card to the whole group and tell the child who selected it, "This is your card."



- Then that card can be left out of the deck and the next person can select a card to start a new round of the card trick.
- Kids will be amazed as time after time the leader performing the trick knows which card they selected!
- When groups finish, call attention back to you and have leaders rubber band their decks together again.

Talk About It

Ask: • **Tell me about what just happened in your groups!**

• **How do you think your leader *always* knew what card was taken out?**

Say: **There was a trick your leaders used to help them know which card you chose.** Borrow a deck of cards from a leader, and slowly walk everyone through the trick to show kids how it works.

Say: **This is a silly and fun card trick, but God *doesn't* use *any* tricks to know all we say and do. God knows everything because God is very special. If we do wrong, we don't need to try to hide it or worry because God knows about it. God loves us even when we do wrong, and we are forgiven.**