

The image features a solid orange background at the top, which transitions into a teal background at the bottom. A thick, glossy, orange liquid-like substance is dripping down from the orange section, creating a wavy, irregular border. The text "WHEN LIFE GETS MESSY" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, positioned across the boundary where the orange liquid is dripping. The words "WHEN LIFE" are on the orange background, and "GETS MESSY" is on the teal background.

WHEN LIFE
GETS MESSY



Group Time Guide

Supplies Needed: Permanent marker, whiteboard, dry erase marker, eraser

1. Time to Talk

Look Up and Read: Ephesians 4:31-32. These verses are about forgiving others just as God forgave us.

- What do you think it means to forgive someone? (stop being mad about something they've done.)
- Why do you think it's so hard to forgive other people?
- Have you ever pulled a prank, like Josh and Beka? Have you ever been pranked? How did it feel?
- How do you think forgiveness can make our relationships better?

2. Hands-On Activity

Do This: Draw a line on the whiteboard with the permanent marker. Try to erase the line with the eraser.

Say This: When we do things we know are wrong, that's called sin. Imagine that all this line is all the sin in our life. Things like lying, cheating, name calling, disobeying our parents, etc.

Say This: As much as I try, I can't get rid of the sin in my life on my own. God knew that, so he had a plan to send Jesus into the world to rescue us. Jesus came to take the punishment for all the wrong things we do.

Do This: Color over the permanent marker with a dry erase marker.

Say This: Because of what Jesus did on the cross, God forgives all the wrong things we've done and gives us a new start. (Erase the board and see how the "sin" disappears.) He forgives us every time we ask Him to. God wants us to forgive others in the same way.

Discuss: When have you experienced forgiveness from someone else? How did you feel? Why do you think it's important to forgive others?

The Point: An important part of any relationship is being able to forgive the people who have hurt us. Forgiveness doesn't mean that what they did was okay, but we stop holding onto the anger we feel. We can forgive others because God forgave us.