



# PLAY IT

## FORGIVENESS CRUMPLES

### Supplies

- 8.5" x 11" sheets of printer paper (one per person)
- pens or pencils (one per person)

### Directions

1. Give each person a sheet of paper and then read the following directions aloud:
  - If someone has ever done something to you that you needed to forgive, put several creases in your sheet of paper.
  - If you've ever done something that others had to forgive, lightly crumple your paper into a loose ball.
  - If it's *ever* been hard for you to forgive others—even one time—crumple your paper into a tight ball.
  - If you've ever asked someone to forgive you for something, uncrumple your ball halfway.
  - If you've ever asked God to forgive you, uncrumple your ball the rest of the way.
  - Now smooth out your paper.
2. Explain: When our loving heavenly Father forgives us, our sins are gone—but often the consequences of our sins remain. People we hurt are still angry. Things we broke are still broken. In the same way that we can still see the consequences of crumpling our papers, we can see the consequences of sin in our lives. Still, God can make something beautiful and good of our lives. His forgiveness makes us new again.
3. Ask participants to look at the wrinkle lines on their papers and look for lines that form a beautiful pattern or create objects such as faces, mountain ranges, blooms, etc.
4. Ask them to draw over those pattern lines with their pencils.
5. After a few minutes, encourage them to show their papers to one another and explain what good things they saw.

After or during the activity, talk about this:

- What's something good or beautiful that's come out of you asking for forgiveness?
- What's something good or beautiful that's come out of your forgiving someone else?
- What's something good that came out of the loving father forgiving his younger son?
- How does it feel knowing that God will forgive you? Why?