

Bible story links (numbers in brackets are page numbers from the Lion Bible for children):

1. Joseph forgives his brothers (70 - 74) - In the Old Testament, there are lots of stories about the life of Joseph (who had a coat of many colours and was one of 12 brothers). Despite having been betrayed by his brothers, Joseph becomes powerful and is able to forgive his brothers when they have fallen on hard times.
2. The Lord's Prayer - Jesus shared this special prayer with his followers as the way to pray. It is a very common prayer used in Christian worship, however it is worth taking the time to unpick the meaning of each line. Forgiveness is mentioned twice in the prayer (asking to be forgiven for our sins/trespasses and asking to be able to forgive those that have wronged us) - the only one of St Mary's values to appear in the Lord's Prayer.
3. Parables - Jesus told many easy to understand stories linked to people's everyday lives. The parables contain messages about God and how to live our lives, in these examples (248-250), the message is about God looking for sinners (those that are 'lost') and showing them forgiveness:
 - The prodigal son - this well-known story is about a Father who forgives his son
 - The lost sheep and the lost coin - people celebrate when they find what has been lost
 - The unforgiving servant - God wants everyone to show forgiveness
4. Jesus forgives Peter for denying him (282 / 286 / 301). Even Jesus' favourite disciple was scared when Jesus was arrested and put on trial. He denied knowing Jesus (as Jesus had predicted).
5. Jesus died for the forgiveness of our sins (306). This message of sacrifice lies at the heart of Christianity and is the culmination of the events of Easter (Holy week) when Jesus is crucified. Jesus' resurrection represents hope for the future.
6. Jonah (206 - 208). God forgives Jonah when he disobeys God's plan for him to travel to Nineveh.