

Even though he's only 12 years old, this summer Reggie Fields began his own business, Reggie's Lawn Cutting Service. Reggie hired his cousins and brothers and sisters to work for him. Business was going fine until the end of June when Reggie mistakenly crossed the property line of the yard he was hired to mow, and he mowed a strip of the neighbor's yard. The neighbor promptly called the police on the kids. The police, upon arrival, only talked to the adults and didn't even bother the workers. When Reggie realized the problem, he was afraid and discouraged, but he apologized and moved on. Word got out about what happened, and now Reggie's business is booming. Reggie is receiving 15 to 20 calls per week to mow people's yards, up from just 4 or 5 before the incident. Reggie's work wasn't perfect, but people appreciate his efforts and the way he responded to his mistake. They want to support and encourage his efforts.

Think About It . . .

- Why do you think Reggie's work wasn't perfect?
- What might have happened if Reggie hadn't apologized?

THE BEAT

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Lesson 13



Article and activity by Rebecca Haynes Mott

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“Forgive Me!”

Divide into pairs. Have each pair try write two sentences: one about something a person has done wrong and needs to ask forgiveness for and another sentence about something wrong that has been done to a person and the person needs to forgive. After a few minutes, have pairs take turns reading their sentences aloud. Discuss why it might be hard to ask for forgiveness or to forgive in each situation. SAY: **Let's dig into the Bible and see what it says about forgiveness.**

In what situations can you forgive friends and others as God forgives?