

DAY 5

THE STEP-UP: SANCTIFICATION

WORLD RECORDS

If you could beat the world record in something, what would it be?

DATE	YOUR NAME	WORLD RECORD

Edmund Hillary and Tenzig Norgay were the first men to reach the top of Mount Everest. But ever since their amazing accomplishment, many other people have set some incredible records. Here are a few of them:

1965: Nawang Gombu became the first man to climb Everest TWICE.

1975: A British expedition, led by Chris Bongiton, became the first to ascend the southwest face of the mountain.

1975: Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit.

1978: Reinhold Messner and Peter Habeler climbed up the southeast ridge without oxygen tanks.

1998: Tom Whittaker became the first amputee to reach the top of Everest.

2001: Erik Weihenmayer became the first blind man to reach the summit.

All of these accomplishments were made possible because Hillary and Norgay blazed the way, being the first to conquer Mount Everest. With their Everest

Challenge, they inspired others to come after and make their own marks. That is what it means to step up.

By forgiving others, we inspire people to do the same. We encourage others to step up and also learn to forgive. Another way to describe this is "sanctification," which is a fancy way of saying we have been purified and freed from sin.

God doesn't forgive us so we can just sit on a shelf like a statue. He tells us to love others, serve people, and use our talents and be His disciples. (For more on being in a relationship with Jesus or doing what Jesus said, check out *Red Letter Challenge Kids* or *Being Challenge Kids*.) Our forgiveness is an invitation to step up into a life of walking with Jesus and serving others.

Sanctification is the last letter in SCARS. Review the 5 phases of forgiveness by filling in the blanks.

1. THE _____ -UP (SIN)
2. THE _____ -UP (CONFESSION)
3. THE _____ -UP (ABSOLUTION)
4. THE _____ -UP (RESTORATION)
5. THE _____ -UP (SANCTIFICATION)

TAKE THE EVEREST FORGIVENESS CHALLENGE

For a long time, Everest was a challenge for mountaineers who wanted to test their skill. Today, hundreds of climbers go up every year. In fact, there are so many climbers that you can see lines of people leading up the side of the mountain.

You may not be the next climber of Everest, but there will be a time when forgiveness will feel like a bigger challenge than climbing a mountain. You might even think, "But I'm just a kid! Forgiveness is too hard for someone like me."

Kids have thought the same thing about Mount Everest. But a couple of kids proved that you're never too young to take the Everest Challenge. In 2010, Jordan Romero became the youngest male to climb the mountain. He was 13 years old. Then, in 2014, 13-year-old Malavath Poorna became the youngest female to climb the mountain.

If kids can take the Everest Challenge, then you're never too young to take the Forgiveness Challenge. Your summit may be closer than you realize!

When you show forgiveness, you inspire others to do the same. Therefore, when you forgive, you're not just setting yourself free; you're setting up others to be free. You cannot live your true calling without other people; and you can't be around others without learning to practice forgiveness. Forgiveness sets us up for deeper, more trusting relationships.

During the week of the Step-up, Days 34 to 40, we are going to talk about:

- How forgiveness makes us different (in a good way)
- How to be a forgiving person when things get hard
- How forgiveness gives us a new picture of our past hurts
- How forgiveness is only the beginning of a life following Jesus
- How being forgiven means I can help others forgive

RED ALERT!

Jesus's ministry lasted only about three and a half years. And yet He changed the world in that short time. We may not change the entire world, but we can still change our own little world—our school or neighborhood. The good news is that you don't need a lot of time to do it.



#FORGIVINGCHALLENGEKIDS