# **Title: Jain Forgiveness**

**Key Questions:** Have we ever been impressed by an example of forgiveness?

How do the followers of T\* seek and offer forgiveness?

Why can it be a good thing if I forgive others?

Is forgiveness always possible? Can I forgive on behalf of others?

**Key Concepts:** Forgiveness, reconciliation, hope, freedom, compassion, bitterness.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Learning objectives** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
| LO: to come to an understanding of why Jains consider forgiveness important. | Questions:  What is forgiveness?  What did Jesus teach about it?  How have some Christians responded to this?  What do you think are the positive and negative things to come out of forgiveness?  Introduction to Jainism – Go through with students the basic teachings of Jainism. Make sure they are aware that there is no belief in God. They believe it is up to each person to live the best way they can until they achieve liberation.  Questions:  If you are not forgiving others to please a God is there any point in doing it?  Do you ever forget to ask others to forgive you when you do something wrong?  Do you ever find it hard to ask for forgiveness?  Would it help to have a special day on which to do this?  Using the above questions as a starting point, in groups, consider the six scenarios. They are in no particular order. Which would you be able to forgive? And would that change if you considered it as a Christian or a Jain?  Read through information on Kshamavaani (Forgiveness Day). What do Jains do on it? Why is this day important? What special words are said? Do you think having a day set aside to ask for forgiveness is a good idea?  Watch the film about the forgiveness circle – what do you think about this?  Imagine you are a Jain – write a letter to a non Jain friend asking for forgiveness and explaining why you are doing it.  Do you think having a special day to ask for forgiveness is a good idea or not? Why? | <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/jainism/ataglance/glance.shtml>  Scenarios ONE to SIX will have downloaded with this lesson plan  Resource Code  KS3\_08\_04\_SCENARIO\_NUMBER  <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kshamavani>  <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Micchami_Dukkadam>  Yash, a young Birmingham Jain, is at the annual event ‘The Forgiveness Circle’. |