READY TO USE MOVIE

# Ted Lasso (15)

Season one, episode nine: ‘All apologies’

Watch the whole episode together or focus on the clip…

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Synopsis

*Ted Lasso* is a series about an American football coach who is brought over to the UK to manage a Premier League football team – a sport he is not knowledgeable about. Ted is, however, an amazing coach of people and, despite some initial scepticism and hostility towards him from his squad and staff, Ted begins to win them over with his earnestness and humility. Episode nine is the penultimate episode of season one.

*Ted Lasso* has a positive outlook on life, flawed characters who are trying to be better and the sort of wisdom that is instantly meme-able. Ted as a character is impossible to dislike and with the release of season three in March and the announcement of star Hannah Waddingham as one of the hosts of this year’s *Eurovision Song Contest*, now is the right time to revisit one of his best moments from season one.

## The episode

Although Ted Lasso is generally fairly tame in its output, it does have strong language at times which means that this session is best aimed at older groups who are more likely to be aware of the programme. With that in mind, chat through the following questions to help settle them into the discussion format:

* What makes someone a good coach?
* Is it possible for a specialist coach in one sport to be a good coach in another sport?
* What is it about football that makes it such a popular sport?

Episode nine sees a culmination of a number of storylines throughout the series. The main one is that Rebecca (Hannah Waddingham), the owner of the football team that Ted (Jason Sudeikis) manages, has been actively using Ted to sabotage the team throughout the season. Due to gaining ownership of the team through a divorce from her husband (who had been unfaithful many times), she had been keen to destroy what her husband loved. Despite this, Ted had proven to her that her actions were wrong and Rebecca has come to love the people she works with. In a moment of courage, Rebecca confesses to Ted what she has done, fully expecting him to resign and expose her to the press. Ted – because he is Ted – instantly forgives her and removes her guilt and shame. After watching the clip, discuss these questions together:

* Why do you think Ted forgives Rebecca rather than responding with anger?
* How is Rebecca feeling at the end of the clip in contrast with the start?
* Should Rebecca’s many actions be forgiven or punished?
* Would you have forgiven Rebecca if you were Ted?

## The Bible

Building on the clips from today, read out loud Luke 6:37. Afterwards chat through the following questions:

* What does it mean to forgive someone? Why is forgiveness important in our relationships with others?
* How do you think forgiving others can benefit you personally? How can holding onto grudges or resentment affect your mental health?
* Jesus tells us not to judge or condemn others. What are some ways we can avoid judging others? Why is it important to avoid judging others?
* Have you ever struggled to forgive someone? What helped you to eventually forgive them? Is there anyone you are still struggling to forgive?
* How can we balance forgiveness with justice? Are there certain situations where forgiveness may not be appropriate or where we need to take action to address a wrong that has been done?

*Ted Lasso* is available to stream on Apple TV+. The clip for this session can be found on YouTube – [this link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nhf5QSc0oZI&t=47s) starts at 47 seconds as there is a swear word and bare bottoms beforehand!

**TOM WADE**

is director of community partnerships at Haileybury School, Hertford.