

DISCUSSION GUIDE
MAY 13 & 14

Search

What does the Bible say about |



FOLLOWING JESUS • IN COMMUNITY • FOR OTHERS

Search: Why Do I Forgive?

MATTHEW 18:21-35 | WEEK 4

Opening Questions

1. Describe a person who is difficult for you to forgive. Why?
2. Describe the last time you asked someone for forgiveness. What was the result?
3. Why do you think forgiveness is so difficult at times? Is it ever easy?

In the Word

1. Read [Matthew 18:21-35](#).
2. What is a question you would like to ask Jesus about this parable?
3. Why did Peter ask the question at the beginning of the parable? What answer did he expect?
4. How large were the debts of the two servants? How were they different?
5. How would you describe each servant's character?
6. How would you describe the king's/master's character in this parable?
7. Do [verses 34-35](#) come as a surprise? Why or why not?
8. Parables generally have one main point. Describe the main point in a brief sentence.

Making It Personal

1. Look at [verse 35](#) again and [Matthew 6:14-15](#). How do these verses speak to you personally? In what specific ways is the Holy Spirit convicting you?
2. In what ways do you have trouble giving or receiving forgiveness? Give an example or two.
3. Pastor Hutchison utilized a video clip from a CNN news story in his message. The story was about the forgiveness offered by the children of a man murdered this last Easter. What speaks to you about this story? Is it irresponsible or does it look like God? Why?
4. Write down the names or initials of several people you know where forgiveness needs to be pursued between you and that person. What can you do initiate forgiveness and reconciliation? Think through the specific steps Pastor Hutchison mentioned in his message.
5. Share with your group and ask for help in staying accountable to seek and receive forgiveness over the next few days. Start right away!
6. Spend some time in prayer as a group thanking God for His forgiveness and praying for His forgiveness to take over our lives.

Continued Learning

1. Thinking through the different characters in the Bible (Old and New Testaments). Which ones are good examples of forgiveness? Which ones are poor examples? What can we learn from them?
2. Consider Shawnalee's story from last weekend's video (single mom). In what ways has Shawnalee had to give and receive forgiveness? In what ways are you still "*Unfinished*"?

Additional Notes