

Forgiveness

Wayde Goodall – May 19, 2019

Mark 11:25 NLT — But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.

Life is full of HURTS
Jesus is full of HEALING

What happens if you don't forgive?

1. Distance and ALIENATION

1 Samuel 18:8-9 NIV — “They have credited David with tens of thousands,” he thought, “but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?” And **from that time on** Saul kept a close eye on David.

2. The Fruit of the Spirit isn't a REALITY in our lives.

GALATIANS 5:22-23

Indifference or hatred displaces **love**

Bitterness or depression displaces **joy**

Anxiety displaces **peace**

Short-temperedness displaces **patience**

Hard-heartedness or indifference displaces **kindness**

Meanness or get-even displaces **goodness**

A demanding nature displaces **gentleness**

Resignation from responsibility displaces **self-control**

3. We BLAME others for our feelings or situations.

Forgiveness Over Blame

Blame finds the fault—Forgiveness finds the cure

Blame makes you a victim—Forgiveness makes you a victor

4. Punishment “You’re going to PAY.”

5. ILLNESS

James 5:16 MSG — Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed.

6. RETENTION

Mark 11:25 MSG — And when you assume the posture of prayer, remember that it’s not all asking. If you have anything against someone, forgive—only then will your heavenly Father be inclined to also wipe your slate clean of sins.

How do you forgive?

- Re-Evaluate
- Repent
- Redeem
- Repeat
- Remember
- Reach-Up

Verse Of The Week

Ephesians 4:31-32 — Let there be no more resentment, no more anger or temper, no more violent self-assertiveness, no more slander and no more malicious remarks, Be kind to each other, be understanding. Be as ready to forgive others as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven you.”

Life Group Discussion & Questions

BREAKING THE ICE: Take a few minutes and catch up with each other. Share some “wins” (things you can thank God for) from the past week.

DIGGING IN: This week we discussed forgiveness. Read Mark 11:25, how does it describe how we should treat people.

1. Discuss as a group people that have crossed your path that have hurt you. What ways were you able to show forgiveness when you believed they did not deserve it?
2. Take a look at point number 2. How can you start to apply the Fruits of the Spirit to difficult and complex relationships?

3. Review the section "What happens when you don't forgive?" from Sunday's message. Discuss as a group some of the emotional and relational issues that come up when we don't forgive.
4. Review the section "How do you forgive?" from Sunday's message. Which one of those six statements stands out most to you, why?
5. Who is God challenging you to offer forgiveness too?

BRINGING IT HOME: Read Ephesians 4:31-32. What verse or verses in this passage stands out to you. How can you apply it to your life this week?

Think also about how this message applies to your work and family. Too often we allow what people have done to us dictate how we love and what we're willing to forgive. So many times we put ratings on what we believe is forgivable and what's not. However, Jesus calls us to forgive as our Father in Heaven forgives. If we started forgiving like this, how would your relationships look different?