

“One Another” Series

Week 06 : Forgive One Another

Check In:

Take a few moments to check in with each other –

We're about three weeks away from regathering at all our Northview campuses. What are you most looking forward to when we get back together as the church?

Discussion Questions : “Forgive One Another”

[1] Why do you think it's so hard for some people to forgive, while for others it seems fairly easy?

[2] In his message, Pastor Steve reminded us what forgiveness is NOT.

Forgiving is not simply accepting someone's apology
Forgiving is not minimizing or excusing someone's sin
Forgiving is not just saying that “time will lessen the pain”
Forgiving is not only about agreeing to not get even
Forgiving is not forgetting
Forgiving is not a feeling

Which of these points was easiest for you to understand? On the other hand, which of these points was the hardest to understand?

[3] In what ways do you believe our experiences and memories impact our ability to forgive and be forgiven?

[4] Can you think of a time when someone forgave you for a significant offense? What emotions did you experience when you were offered genuine forgiveness?

[5] Pull out your Bibles and read **Matthew 18:21-35** as a group.

Re-read verse 27. What do you appreciate about the master's response to the man's debt?

Re-read verse 28. What frustrates you most about the way the man responded to his fellow servant?

Re-read verse 35. Why do you think Jesus [who told this story, by the way] took such a hard position on the issue of forgiveness? I mean, why is this issue so important to Him?

[6] Okay, let's get a little more personal. Do you find it easier to forgive yourself or forgive someone else? Why do you think that is, and why are both so important?

[7] What are the actual effects of withholding forgiveness? Can you think of ways a spirit of unforgiveness could affect people physically, emotionally or spiritually?

[8] We hope you'll share your answer to this next question with the group: What was the most difficult thing you've ever had to forgive, and how did you muster the ability to do it?

[9] Is there anyone you're currently withholding forgiveness from? If so, what might motivate to make the move and begin the process of forgiving them?

As you close...

: If you haven't done so already, please remind everyone to watch this week's Life Group video on the topic of forgiveness. It's a good one!

: Ask if anyone has someone in mind that they need to forgive or to seek forgiveness from. Please pray specifically for each person who currently has an unresolved relationship, asking God to help them find the ability to forgive.