

Forgiveness as Radical Love, Nov. 7-10

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth
2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)

HOUSEKEEPING:

- ➔ WEEK OF PRAYER WITH FASTING, Nov. 10-17 - Urgent and Important
- ➔ PRAYER GATHERING, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7pm - Urgent and Important – NO LC

INTRO:

What are the struggles/ challenges/ obstacles/ difficulties we have with forgiveness?

TRUTH:

Forgiveness is a primary weapon in spiritual warfare and a primary way to love as Jesus loves

Throne Room Observations

- ➔ Sense of urgency and importance to seek God with intensity
- ➔ God is surfacing stuff in us – invitations that look like problems
- ➔ God is challenging us to RADICAL obedience
- ➔ Forgiving others is a huge piece of radical obedience to live lives of supernatural love for God and others

Biblical Forgiveness...

1. not optional
2. act of the will not feelings
3. a decision to not hold on to an offense,
4. not the same as reconciliation or trust.
5. is to be done as Jesus does.

Matthew 18:21–35 (ESV) (pew Bible page 821)

- ➔ We think we are being generous when we are still self-focused
- ➔ Our offense against God is unpayable
- ➔ Mercy and grace is our only hope with God
- ➔ God’s forgiveness is beyond comprehension
- ➔ Forgiveness received does not guarantee forgiveness extended
- ➔ The picture of evil is US when we don’t forgive
- ➔ Unforgiveness separates us from God...

Forgiving as a big part of supernaturally loving others

1. not optional.

Matthew 6:14–15 (ESV) ¹⁴For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. an act of the will, not feelings.

Luke 6:27–28 (ESV) ²⁷“But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

3. a decision to not hold on to an offense.

Luke 6:37 (ESV) ³⁷“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven;

4. not the same as reconciliation or trust.

Colossians 3:12–13 (ESV) ¹²Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

5. is to be done as Jesus does.

Ephesians 4:32 (ESV) ³²Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Takeaways...

