



Personal Study Guide

Father, Forgive Them

March 1, 2020

Introduction

? What do you think the public perception of forgiveness is in our society today? Why do you think so?

? How does it impact you to know that, even in the life of a celebrated Christian leader like Ten Boom, forgiveness was not easy or immediate?

? How do you respond when forgiveness is difficult for you? Who in your life encourages you and challenges you to be faithful in following Jesus this way?

1. Forgiving an Impossible Debt (Matthew 18:21-27)

? How does the notion of repeated forgiveness to the same person measure up with the ethic of our culture? Do you find forgiveness or revenge to be more commonplace?

? Application: When you are hurt or betrayed by someone, how easily do you forgive? Is it an immediate decision or one you slowly have to arrive at? How do you determine if someone is worthy of forgiveness?

2. Forgetting Desperation Leads to Ingratitude (Matthew 18:28-30)

? When you read about the ingratitude of the forgiven servant, what is your initial gut response? Why do you think that is so?

- ❓ Application: What has been the best way you've discovered to not forget the desperation and hopelessness Jesus delivered you from? Why do you think it is so easy to lose sight of that gratitude in the course of daily living?
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3. Forgiveness Modeled Leads to Forgiveness Offered (Matthew 18:31-35; Luke 23:34)

- ❓ What does the wicked servant's response to grace indicate about the proper effect of grace on a person's life? How did Jesus' parable answer Peter's question about how often to forgive one who wrongs him?
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- ❓ Application: How does the recognition of what Jesus has forgiven you for impact your readiness to forgive others? How have you seen that change over the course of your walk with Jesus?
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Conclusion

- ❓ If someone were to ask you why Jesus had to die in order for you to be forgiven, what would you say? How does understanding the depth of what you were forgiven of help the explanation?
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- ❓ How do you distinguish between forgiving someone who wrongs you and repeatedly leaving yourself vulnerable to the same mistreatment? Why is that distinction important?
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- ❓ Describe a time in which your willingness to forgive someone else restored a relationship that was previously irreparable. What moved you toward being willing to forgive that person?
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Daily Readings

- Monday - 2 Peter 3:9
- Tuesday - Luke 15:1-7
- Wednesday - Luke 15:8-10
- Thursday - Luke 15:11-32
- Friday - Titus 3:4-5
- Saturday - Acts 1:8