

Week Four

Recommended Books

The Bait of Satan by John Bevere

Waking the Dead by John Eldridge



What keeps people from forgiving others? Why do some people refuse to forgive?

Why is it important to believe that God has forgiven us a much larger debt than we have to forgive others?

Read aloud Matthew 18:34-35. What does it mean to you to forgive someone from your heart?

Do you agree that unforgiveness is worst than other sins and that it imperils our souls? Or does that seem overblown to you?

Who is one person you need to forgive? Go around the group and have everyone pray for that person and release the debt?

Scriptures

Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.” -Matthew 18:21-22

Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. -Matthew 18:23-25

So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. -Matthew 18:26-27

But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, “Pay what you owe.’ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ He refused and went out and put him in prison until he would pay the debt. -Matthew 18:28-30

When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then the lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ -Matthew 18:31-33

And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. -Matthew 18:34

So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart. -Matthew 18:35