



October 5 – 6
Lesson 3

Forgive One Another

This Discussion Guide should be used the week following the sermon it supplements, but members can still interact even if they missed the sermon. To use this guide in your Community Group, try to work through the questions on your own before you meet. You might not get to all of the questions, and that's okay. If your Community Group does not meet one week, walk through the guide on your own so that you can stay in sync with the series.

MAIN TEXT: Ephesians 4:32

SUMMARY: To continue our “One Another” series on how to be the church with one another and not just do church, we will look into forgiving one another. In the Christian life, we get, give, and live forgiveness.

Just a reminder, while the “one another” passages do encourage us to move inward in community with one another, it doesn't happen without moving upward toward God, and it always moves us outward to the lost around us!

GETTING STARTED

Watch the video together with the corresponding guide and answer the following question below:

1. Is forgiveness a choice regardless of feeling, or a feeling that leads to a choice? Explain.

DISCUSSING THE WORD

1. Read Ephesians 4:32. According to this passage, how are we to forgive others?
2. What is so significant about the phrase “as God in Christ forgave you.”? Read Matthew 18:21-35. How does this story make it's point?
3. What are we giving up when we forgive others? How does this remind you of what Jesus did for you? How does forgiveness become an easier choice to make when you remember this?
4. What makes forgiveness so essential in relationships?

RESPONDING TO GOD

1. Why is Paul's instruction important for the church body? Your Community Group?
2. **Write on a piece of paper a person that you need to forgive (or someone that you know that needs to experience God's forgiveness).** You don't need to share this with the group. Then take time to pray silently for a minute to God for this person.

OTHER THOUGHTS

Read Luke 7:36-50 and meditate on God's forgiveness provided for you and His love for you.

MOVING OUTWARD WITH YOUR GROUP

Below is the Moving Outward that was shared last week. Use some time at the end to discuss any details needed to move forward, and spend some time praying for these unsaved friends.

1. Have each person think of 2 unsaved friends. Write them down on a piece of paper and commit to pray for their salvation.
2. Go around the room and share with your group the 2 unsaved friends that you wrote down.
3. Decide as a group which unsaved friend you would all like to pursue with either one of the following 3 things:
 - a. **Is there a need? Then fill it.** (*Ex. Yardwork is difficult for a single mom.*)
 - b. **Is there a hurt? Then heal it.** (*Ex. A neighbor's spouse passed away and you make meals for the neighbor for a week*)
 - c. **Is there a common interest? Then do it.** (*Ex. A friend likes board games, so you get together for a game night!*)
4. Start planning the details together as a group and just focus on 1 or 2 unsaved people at a time. Let them see your love that you have as a group and the love Jesus has for them!