

Sermon: FORGIVENESS  
Series: JESUS TALKS

Pastor John Teirnan  
October 4, 2015

**Life Group Discussion Questions:**

**Question 1.** Please review Jesus' parable on forgiveness **Matthew 18:21**. Most of us will discover that we are twice pleased as we read this parable. First, as the servant is forgiven his debt, and then again as he is punished by the king for his lack of compassion with his fellow servant. Why do you think it is so natural for us to see ourselves as the king and so difficult for us to see our selves as the selfish servant that deserves punishment?

**Question 2.** Please read **Matthew 6:5-15**. In The Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us the essence of right relationship with the Father and our brothers and sisters on earth. Why, in light of all the important teachings in the Bible, do you think Jesus included forgiveness in this very concise prayer?

**Question 3.** Please read **Romans 3:23 and Isaiah 64:6**. Discuss with your Life Group members how, in our prayer life, can we begin to reflect upon and share with the Father the depth of our gratitude and the many debts we owe to Him.

**Question 4.** Occasionally, in the news, or in our circle of friends, we have heard a remarkable story where a person has totally forgiven another for an especially grievous offense. What reaction or reactions did this prompt in you? Did any of Pastor John's sermon points allow you to better understand this level of radical forgiveness?

**Question 5.** One of the steps that Pastor John recommends in a difficult forgiveness situation is to invite the support of a close friend, a staff member at Grace, or perhaps a member or members of your Life Group. Would you like your group to pray for you in your effort to forgive? It may be helpful for you to share your story with the group, or you might just say, "There's someone in my life i need to forgive. Please pray for me."

**Question 6.** Pastor John also reminded that a we need to seek forgiveness for the hurts that we've caused. Read **1 John 1:5-10**. Discuss the ways that we benefit and grow as we ask God to forgive us. And, as we ask those we've hurt to forgive us.

**Prayer Thought:**

Ask our Lord to help us hold on to these Bible verses that help us to learn the essential importance of forgiving and being forgiven.

**Memory Verse:**

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." ~ Matthew 7:24