**Life Group Study Guide: Loved what you heard on Sunday? Want to go deeper? The life group study guide will help you unpack what you heard on Sunday while diving deeper into God's word.**

* *How were disagreements settled in your home growing up? Between your parents? Between you and your sibling(s)?*
* *Tell about a tough “I’m sorry” you had to say to someone. Why did you have to apologize?*
* *What insight, observation, or principle from this weekend’s message did you find most helpful, insightful, or troubling? Explain.*

***As Christians, we are taught to forgive one another. Hurt and pain from those we love are bound to happen in our sinful and broken world. It is how we respond to those who sin against us can lead us into freedom or into bondage. God has******given us the perfect example of forgiveness through His Son, Jesus Christ who died on the cross and earned God’s forgiveness for us. Join us this week as we discover how to forgive one another.***

**Start digging. Read Matthew 18:21-35**

* *Do you tend to view forgiveness as a one-time interaction, or a lifetime process?*
* *What is the significance of Jesus multiplying the times we are to forgive a brother or sister who sins against us?*
* *In your own words, what was the lesson of the Parable that Jesus was trying to teach his disciples?*
* *Have you ever personally found it hard to extend forgiveness to someone who has sinned against you? What were the steps you had to take to finally be able to forgive?*
* *From the Parable that Jesus told, what should have been the motivation of the unforgiving servant to forgive his fellow servant that owed him money?*
* *What does “mercy” mean? How was the king merciful to the unforgiving servant? How has King Jesus been merciful to you?*
* *What was the warning that Jesus gave to his disciples about our receiving and extending forgiveness?*
* *How do you feel about the fact that God is angry at those who refuse to forgive? Why is forgiveness such an important issue God?*

* *What does it mean to forgive from the heart? Are there ways to forgive that are not from the heart?*

**Digging Deeper**

* *What is one insight, observation, or truth that you are taking away from this study that you did not have prior to this study?*
* *What is one intentional step that you will commit to taking this week as a result of what you have learned from this study?*

I LVE MY CHURCH

“Forgive One Another” | June 18th, 2017

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

 **YOU ARE FORGIVEN IN CHRIST**

***Romans 5:10-11 (ESV)*** *10For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.*

**WE FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND WHAT IT TOOK TO BE FORGIVEN**

***Matthew 18:21-23, 32-35 (ESV)****21Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” 22Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.  23“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants…..**32“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”*

***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.*

**YOU CAN FORGIVE IN CHRIST**

**FORGIVENESS IS BOTH A DECISION & A PROCESS**

***HOW TO FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER?***

***Ephesians 4:25-26(ESV)*** *25Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. 26Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger**27and give no opportunity to the devil. 28Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.**29Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. 30And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.**31Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.**32Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

* **BE HONEST WITH YOUR PAIN**
* **GET RID OF THE RECORD OF WRONGS**
* **SPEAK TO BUILD UP NOT TO WOUND**
* **CONFRONT YOUR BITTERNESS**
* **AS AN ACT OF WORSHIP, RESPOND TO SINNERS AS GOD RESPONDS TO SINNERS.**