

## LOVE LIKE JESUS—1 FORGIVES SINNERS

*For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*

Matthew 6:14-15

*Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with [Jesus] to be executed. <sup>33</sup> When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.*

*<sup>34</sup> Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” Luke 23:32-34*

### HOW DO YOU FORGIVE LIKE JESUS?

#### 1) PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HURT YOU.

*Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. Luke 6:28 NLT*

*“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Matthew 5:43-44*

#### 2) FORGIVE AS YOU’VE BEEN FORGIVEN.

*...Forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13*

Source: Life.Church

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## Scripture and Discussion Questions

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Matthew 6:14-15 NIV

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### Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Random Bible Trivia: How many times should we forgive people and who said it? (Matthew 18:21-22)
- Share a funny childhood story of holding a grudge.

### Start thinking. Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- What are two or three things that keep you from forgiving people? Are they worth it?
- Why do you think it works to pray for people who hurt you?
- Why do you think God wants us to forgive?

### Start sharing. Choose questions that create openness.

- Have you ever held a grudge against someone? How did unforgiveness affect you?
- Have you ever received unexpected forgiveness? What was that like?
- Read Luke 6:28, Matthew 5:43-44, and Colossians 3:13. Talk about any conviction you feel when reading these scriptures.

### Start digging. Read Scripture about forgiveness.

Matthew 18:21-22

Ephesians 4:32

James 5:16

Luke 6:37

### Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

- Father, You forgave us for what seems unforgiveable. We committed treason against you that cost the life of Your Son. Holy Spirit, give us the strength to forgive as Jesus has forgiven us.

### Start doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

- Start the Love Like Jesus Bible Plan today and learn to forgive like Jesus. [go2.lc/lovelikejesus](http://go2.lc/lovelikejesus)
- In light of the message, who will you pray for this week? When and how often?
- Is there anyone you still need to forgive? How will you take action instead of waiting for your feelings to change?

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