

OUT THERE

Part 3: The Unforgivable

Objective: To challenge us to forgive, even when forgiveness seems impossible.

Read together:

Have someone look up and read Luke 15:11-32

“If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. 4 Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”

5 The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

Luke 17:3-5

- Do you think most people struggle with forgiveness? Why or why not?
- What makes forgiveness so hard for us?
- When you think of something as 'unforgivable' what types of things come to mind?
- In light of the scandalous and hurtful request of the son in Luke 15, do you think his father gave him too much when he returned home? Would you be able to offer that kind of forgiveness and restoration to someone who has hurt you so deeply?
- If the father in Jesus' story represents God, what does that say about God's response to our failures and rebellion?
- Have you ever considered the fact that it takes faith to forgive someone who has hurt you deeply?
- Of the three areas of trust the pastor mentioned, which is the hardest for you to trust God with?
 - Trusting God to heal the hurt.
 - Trusting God to right the wrong.
 - Trusting that God has everyone's best interest at heart.
- You don't have to answer this one for the group, but is there someone you are struggling to forgive? What are you going to do about it?

Final Thought: When you struggle to forgive someone who has hurt you, stop and think of all the things for which God has forgiven you.

This Week: Ask God to grow your faith to the point that you can forgive even what seems unforgivable.

