



Week 2: Sorry, Not Sorry - Forgiving Others **February 22-23, 2020 | Todd Clark**

This weekend, Pastor Todd reminds us how important it is to forgive those around us.

CELEBRATE

At the beginning of your small group time, it's good to share about your week and share with each other how you're doing. So, spend some time, right now, connecting before jumping into the discussion questions. You can use the *Connect* section as a guide. If you're doing this Study Guide on your own, take a moment to focus your mind on God and what He might want you to hear today.

CONNECT

1. Sometimes those you're closest to are the ones you clash with those most. Talk about the friend, parent or sibling that you'd notoriously butt heads with in your childhood.
2. Would you consider yourself someone who is quick to forgive? Talk about an example or two... *without going into too much detail, of course!*

Before watching the sermon, or moving on in this study, take a minute to remember that God is always with you. Pray as a group for God to bless your conversation and open your eyes and hearts to what He wants you to hear.

REFLECT

Before moving forward in your study, take a moment and review the key points from this weekend's message.

1. Forgiveness isn't forgetting, and it's not always fair.
2. Forgiveness doesn't just flow to us... it must flow from us.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE: Matthew 6:14-5, 18:21-35

RESPOND

1. Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this weekend's message that resonated with you. What made it stick with you?
2. If you're comfortable and able to... Talk about a time you forgave someone who might not have asked for forgiveness or *deserved* it. Share what that process looked like for you.
3. Open up to Genesis 50:15-21. This passage is the conclusion of an incredible forgiveness story, and here's some context for it: A guy named Joseph had brothers who were very jealous of him. So jealous, that they sold him into slavery... Despite this, Joseph had some incredible trust in God and experienced miracles in his life. Over those years, he hadn't seen his brothers since they sold him into slavery. Now... Read Genesis 50:15-21. Does the ending of this story surprise you? If you were Joseph, do you think you'd be that quick to forgive?
4. Check out verse 20. Joseph had incredible faith and trust in God. So much so, that he showed gratitude for what God was able to do, despite what his siblings did. Share a time you went through conflict or time someone hurt you, and saw God use it to grow you.
5. Pastor Todd shared an incredible forgiveness story at the end of his sermon. In it, the woman was able to reach out her hand and forgive someone who hurt her... Talk about a time someone showed forgiveness like that to you, even if you didn't *deserve* it.
6. Forgiving someone doesn't necessarily mean becoming best friends with them again. But, it means overflowing God's forgiveness to them so we can experience healing, too. If you're able to, share... who is someone, or what is something, in your life that you feel you need to forgive in this season.
7. Forgiveness with others comes from our relationship with God. In these last few minutes, spend some time talking to God. Think about and confess some of the areas you've messed up in lately, and ask Him for forgiveness in that. Because when we ask for forgiveness, He gives it. Then, share a few ways you could *live out* His forgiveness this week.

Closing Prayer:

God, thank you for loving us, despite us. It seems impossible to fully wrap our minds around how great your love is. So, all we can do is thank you for it. Thank you for showing us grace and allowing us to live out that grace as we do life with those around us. We lay our lives before you and lay our sins before you. We want to go into this new week ready to bring glory and honor to you. Thank you for all that you have forgiven and will forgive in our lives. We love you.

Amen.