

LETTING GO



LETTING GO, PART 2: RELEASED

Forgiving someone before they ask for it isn't easy, but it's exactly what God did for us.

BIG IDEA: Just forgive. Forgive, before they ask. Forgive if they never ask.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

** Remember the goal is to use the questions to generate discussion, not to complete everyone.*

1. Should we be quick to forgive? Is it possible to be too quick to forgive? In your own words, what does forgiveness accomplish?
2. God forgives us even before we ask for it. Have you ever considered that? Have you ever forgiven someone without being asked?
3. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Luke 5:20-24](#).*

²⁰ Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven." ²¹ But the Pharisees and teachers of religious law said to themselves, "Who does he think he is? That's blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!" ²² Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? ²³ Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up and walk'? ²⁴ So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

[Luke 5:20-24 \(NLT\)](#)

4. Does this shed any light on why Jesus performed miracles? If so, how?
5. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Luke 7:37-49](#).*

³⁷ When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. ³⁸ Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. ³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" ⁴⁰ Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied. ⁴¹ Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. ⁴² But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. ⁴⁴ Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. ⁴⁷ "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹ The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that he goes around forgiving sins?" ⁵⁰ And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

[Luke 7:37-49 \(NLT\)](#)

6. In our modern-day backdrop, what are some ways we could act like the woman in the story? That is, how can we apply her example to our own lives today?
7. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Romans 5:6-8](#).*

⁶ When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ⁷ Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. ⁸ But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. [Romans 5:6-8 \(NLT\)](#)

8. What is our responsibility in light of the fact that Christ died for us while we were still sinners? How should this motivate us to love and serve others?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

⁸ But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Romans 5:8