Forgive Our Trespasses
Message Notes

For a free audio or video copy of this message go to newlifeonline.com

facebook.com/NewLifePeoria • Twitter: @newlifepeoria
LIFE Group Homework
For the week of October 22/23, 2016

MY STORY

1. If you were given a scale and on one side hung your need for God’s forgiveness and on the other was someone’s need for your forgiveness, which would be greater?

2. Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,” are the words Rich asked us to explore this week. Let’s look at a parable Jesus used to teach this idea. Read Matthew 18:21-27.

   a. Describe the situation you just read.

c. Lastly, read Matthew 18:31-35. Describe the last situation in this story.

d. What stands out to you in this parable?

2. In the parable we just read, the King showed judgement and mercy to the servant.

a. What was the judgement for the servant’s debt and how did the King show mercy?

b. What should the servant have done when he encountered the servant who was in debt to him? Why?

3. When we, as servants, experience the forgiveness of our trespasses and mercy from our King, we begin to be transformed. We experience freedom. When we in turn give forgiveness and mercy to those who trespass against us, we show, and pass on, the generous character of the King we serve. Read Matthew 5:16. How does it relate to this parable and this week’s message?
4. The above parable is showing Peter and us, that how we forgive reveals, accurately or inaccurately, the work and character of our God. What is being revealed about God through your efforts to forgive?

5. Forgiveness is not always easy. Sometimes we need to forgive for small things. Sometimes, big, terrible things happen in our lives, things that seem unforgivable, but God is still asking us to forgive. We do have hope. Rich told us it is God’s power in us, that enables us to forgive, especially for big, terrible trespasses. Read Hebrews 12:1 & 2. How can these verses encourage you in your efforts to forgive?

**TAKING IT HOME**

It doesn’t matter if we need forgiveness from God or we need to forgive someone else, unforgiveness creates a gap between us and God. Forgiveness is not a feeling, forgetting or an act of our will, it is a passing of the judgement and mercy we ourselves received from God to another person. Pray each day this week, “forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us” and let God transform your heart.

**Announcements:**

Nov 13th – Family Picnic from 1-5pm at Rio Vista Park. New Life will provide the meat, you bring a side or dessert to share and your own drinks. We have 5 of the big ramadas, by the playground reserved. Bring your whole group!! Sign up next weekend at the Connection Hub.