June 10 &11, 2017



# Winning the Game When You Are Playing For Keeps

- 1. Love God
- 2. Love People
- 3. Take Responsibility
- 4. Extend Forgiveness

## Why should we teach our kids to forgive others?

#### 1. Because we all need forgiveness

Matthew 18:21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

The people closest will cause the most hurt and require the most forgiveness.

2. Because God wants us to forgive

Matthew 6:12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Matthew 6:14 For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

#### 3. Because forgiveness protects us from bitterness

Hebrews 12:15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and <u>that no bitter root grows up</u> to cause trouble . . .

### 4. Because bitterness affects generations to come

Hebrews 12:15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and <u>defile many.</u>

### 5. Because Christ forgives us

Colossians 3:13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

#### How did Christ forgive us?

1. Christ forgave us when we were hostile to Him.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Christ forgave us sacrificially.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

#### 3. Christ forgave us completely.

Psalms 103:12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Hebrews 8:12 *"For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."* 

Micah 7:19 You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD.

"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."