

# Forgiven

## **Matthew 18:28-35: Forgiven People Forgive**

1. Where have I drawn lines in my willingness to forgive others? Are there specific types of offenses or people I've decided are "unforgivable"?
2. Think about a recent time when someone hurt you. How did your response compare to the grace God has shown you?
3. In what relationships am I currently withholding forgiveness? What would it look like to bring those situations before God?
4. How has my understanding of God's forgiveness of my own sins influenced how I forgive others?
5. Pastor Phil mentioned how the servant didn't recognize "how boundless his forgiveness was." In what ways might I be failing to grasp the magnitude of what God has forgiven me?
6. Where in my life am I responding like the unforgiving servant—perhaps demanding repayment for small offenses while forgetting the enormous debt I've been forgiven?
7. How might my relationships be transformed if I truly forgave "as I have been forgiven"?
8. What practical steps can I take this week to extend forgiveness to someone who has hurt me?
9. How do I react when the same person hurts me repeatedly? How does God's repeated forgiveness of my sins inform how I should respond?
10. In what ways might my unforgiveness be hindering my relationship with God?

# Forgiven

## **Small Group Discussion Guide** **Forgiven People Forgive (Matthew 18:28-35)**

### **Opening Discussion (5-10 minutes)**

1. What part of Pastor Phil's message on forgiveness resonated most with you today? Why do you think that particular point stood out?

### **Understanding the Message (15-20 minutes)**

2. Have someone read Matthew 18:21-35 aloud for the group.
3. Pastor Phil used the visual of a small piece of paper representing our offenses against others compared to a pile of papers representing what God has forgiven us. How does this visual help in understanding the scope of God's forgiveness?
4. The sermon mentioned that "we all draw lines in the sand." What are some of the "lines" you've drawn regarding what you're willing to forgive in others?
5. What strikes you about the forgiven servant's response to his fellow servant? How might we sometimes respond similarly?

### **Personal Application (15-20 minutes)**

6. Share about a time when you found it particularly difficult to forgive someone. What made it challenging? How did you work through it (or how are you still working through it)?
7. How do you typically respond when someone who has hurt you in the past approaches you again for forgiveness? What does Jesus teach us about repeated forgiveness?
8. Pastor Phil said, "When they hear the story we tell about how much we are forgiven they can see right through us when we choose not to engage the world with the same attitude of forgiveness." How might our willingness to forgive serve as a witness to others?

### **Life Change (10-15 minutes)**

9. The sermon asks, "Shouldn't you forgive the things that don't deserve forgiving because you were forgiven a whole bunch of things you didn't deserve to be forgiven?" How would you respond to this question?
10. What practical steps can we take as a group to encourage one another in becoming more forgiving people?

### **Prayer Time (5-10 minutes)**

11. Take some time to pray together. Is there someone you need to forgive? Share if you're comfortable, and have the group pray for God's help in that specific situation.