

Forgiven

It Starts With You

Take time to pray through these questions, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any relationships that need attention, and ask him to give you wisdom and courage for the conversations ahead.

Examining Our Hearts

- Pastor Phil mentions not paying attention to everything people say (Ecclesiastes 7:21-22). What are some minor offenses you tend to hold onto that might be better absorbed rather than addressed?
- Can you identify any "logs in your own eye" - areas where you're critical of others for things you also struggle with?

Taking Inventory of Relationships

Pastor Phil provided several warning signs of broken relationships. Reflect honestly on each:

- **The eye-roll test:** Is there someone you consistently think "what an idiot" about when interacting with them?
- **The satisfaction check:** Have you ever felt happy or satisfied when hearing about someone's problems or failures?
- **The avoidance pattern:** Are you avoiding certain people or situations to prevent interaction with someone?
- **The gossip gauge:** Do you find yourself enjoying passing along negative information about someone?
- **The selective annoyance:** Is there someone whose actions only bother you when *they* do them, but you're fine when others do the same things?

Taking Action

- If the Holy Spirit is prompting you that you've hurt someone, what's keeping you from going to them? What fears or excuses are you using to delay this conversation?
- Think of one specific relationship that needs mending. What would "going" look like in practical terms? What's your first step?

The Challenge

- Pastor Phil asked, "WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?" Write down one concrete action you will take this week to begin mending a broken relationship.
- How does understanding that forgiveness "starts with you" change your approach to conflict resolution? What would need to shift in your mindset?
- Recognize that following Jesus can be scary, but God is bigger than our fears. How can you lean on God's strength in this process?