

Forgiveness- 9/15/19

OVFRVIFW

"Forgive us our sins as we have forgiven those who sin against us." Almost all of us have either read that in the book of Matthew or heard someone recite it aloud. But what is forgiveness really? Blind trust that someone won't wrong us again? A naive sentiment used by people pleasers who can't handle conflict? Let's look at how Jesus forgave us, and the sacrifice behind that forgiveness, and let it shape how we are to forgive others.

Scripture (NLT): Genesis 1:26; Mark 1:14-15, 6:14-15, 18:21-22; Luke 4:43, 8:1; Acts 1:3, 28:30-31; Revelation 11:15; Romans 12:17-19; Colossians 3:13

APPLICATION

- I grew up in a home where my dad always sent flowers when he messed up. Others
 may have seen a lot of crying or yelling, or maybe lived with someone who would never
 admit fault, etc. How was forgiveness (or lack of forgiveness) displayed in your home
 while you were growing up?
- What did those responses teach you about how to receive or accept forgiveness?
- In Matthew 6:14-15, Jesus says that God's forgiveness of us will be based on how we forgive other people. What is your reaction to these verses?
- Forgiveness is a daily choice. Why do you think the continued effort of forgiveness is so difficult?
- HOMEWORK: If you need to forgive someone, remember these two things from the video: 1) It is a choice, not an emotion. 2) It must be done over and over. Is there any action you need to take this week in the area of forgiveness that will help you live more Christlike?