

Life Group Discussion

Based on: Sunday, January 23, 2022
Sermon Title: Forgive One Another
Sermon Series: One Another
Sermon Passage: Ephesians 4:29-5:2

APPETIZER:

Prayer: Take a moment just to have everyone settle. Have a moment of silence and then ask the Holy Spirit to bring his presence to the discussion, bring comfort to our hearts, and encouragement to our lives.

Scripture: Read Ephesians 4:29-4:2 out loud.

Group Discussion: When you were growing up, which parent provided most of the discipline and “crowd control” in your family? Did you have to say, “I’m sorry a lot” as a child or were you well behaved?

Group Discussion: Daryl talked about how we respond when we hear the word “family”. The word evokes positive memories for some, dark memories for others and mixed memories for still others. How do you respond when you hear the word “family”?

MAIN COURSE:

Question: Daryl briefly referenced Matthew 18:21-22 where Jesus spoke about forgiving 70x7 times. Why did our Lord use this unusual phrase?

Question: Consider another OT passage (Genesis 4:23-24) where the same expression is used. How are Matthew 18 and Genesis 4:23-24 exact opposites?

Question: The major part of the Sunday message centred on Ephesians 4:29-5:2. Daryl proposed four “pillars of biblical forgiveness” that shape how Christ followers are to forgive. Review these four pillars in your group. Put one or more of them in your own words; or, if you feel comfortable doing so: provide an example from your life (or others) where some of these four pillars have been lived out well.

Question: Paul talks about the “sealing” of the Holy Spirit. How do you feel about this incredible truth? What does it mean to you personally? (See also Ephesians 1:13-14)

Motivation: Apart from the biblical passage, what are some other motives you have heard used to forgive others? The passage uniquely calls for us to forgive as God in Christ Jesus first forgave us. How does this unique motive deepen our willingness to forgive others?

DESSERT:

Discus: “Forgiving others helps me to appreciate even more God’s forgiveness of me.”

OR

“Why is forgiving others sooo hard to do?”

PRAYER: Close by praying for the heart to both forgive AND show compassion to those who hurt us.