



## **Receiving and Giving Forgiveness**

**Matthew 18:21-35**

**Week of February 16, 2020**

**Chris Coon**

**Objective of this study:** To understand Jesus' teaching about forgiveness, to see how profoundly we need God's forgiveness and how profoundly he loves us,, and to be changed in our heart and our relationships because of it.

[Remember, the main goal of each Growth Group is to allow God's Word to change your heart so that others would see Jesus in you and be likewise changed to be like him. He wants to change the world through us.]

### **Worship (5 – 10 minutes)**

1. Sing a song or two of praise and thanksgiving to God.
2. Spend five minutes in silence asking God to prepare your heart for hearing his word. After the silence, have someone read **Psalm 130:1-8** meditatively to the group. Pause after each phrase letting God speak to you. **Did anything "jump out at you"? What does this psalm say about God?**

### **Welcome question**

What experiences do you have of being forgiven?

[It's really important when doing this study that we each think about ourselves specifically and ways we need to grow, not how Christians in general need to grow. Do the hard work of letting the Holy Spirit speak to *your* heart.]

### **Word/Work (60-90 minutes)**

1. What stood out from the sermon?
2. Read **Matthew 18:21-35**.
3. Describe each of the characters in this story. What was important to each of them? Who do they each represent? Can you relate to any of them?
4. What was Jesus teaching through this story? How does it flow from the question Peter asked Jesus?
5. Read **Luke 7:36-50**. This is another situation where Jesus told a parable about forgiving in response to someone's question. What is Jesus teaching here? How does it relate to the unmerciful servant? What was the unmerciful servant not seeing?
6. What challenges do you have with forgiving others? What challenges do you have with repenting/confessing/apologizing and asking for forgiveness?
7. If you knew how profoundly you are loved by God, how would it affect your ability and desire to forgive?
8. Read **Psalm 130** again. What does this psalm say about God?
9. What heart attitudes does the writer of the psalm express towards God? What do you see here that can help you to confess, apologize, or forgive?

## Prayer

1. Spend the rest of the time praying for each other. **Thank God for how deeply he loves us in providing forgiveness for us.** Here are some things you can pray about for the church:

A. That, as a church, we would actively and purposefully engage in the mission of Jesus in Campbell River.

B. Our church board and staff as they lead us to live out the mission of Jesus.

C. River Kids ministry as they reach out to kids in our community.

D. **Our missionary of the week: Aaron and Julie Gole.** (Check out the church [website](#) for how to pray for them.)

E. **Local church: Discovery Community Church.**

**Radiant Life February Drive - Men's pants, hoodies, jackets.**