



Part 2

Big Idea

This week, Pastor Craig Groeschel shares a powerful message that addresses the question: how do you forgive someone that seems unforgiveable. We all have been hurt, devastated or betrayed by someone. Forgiveness may not always feel easy to give or receive, but it is possible because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We need to forgive like Jesus forgives! First, Jesus shows that we should pray for those who hurt us because a right attitude goes before right actions. When we pray for others we may or may not change them, but it will always change us. Then, we need to forgive as we have been forgiven. Forgiving someone won't change the past, but it can change your future. When you forgive as Jesus forgives, you are setting the prisoner free – and we discover that the prisoner was you! We may never be more like God than when we forgive someone. And, when we pray for those that hurt us and forgive as we have been forgiven, we take a step forward in living the life God intended for us to live.

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive other's their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. – Matthew 6:14-15

Discussion Questions

- Talk about the two things we need to do to forgive like Jesus and how approaching forgiveness like Jesus did can help us to forgive both major and minor offenses.
- Discuss the statement “forgiving someone won't change the past, but it can change your future.
- Jesus has forgiven all of us of much, how can remembering the grace of God's forgiveness help us to forgive other people? What is one thing we can do daily that will remind us of God's grace?

Prayer Focus

Pray for anyone that has hurt you and you have not yet forgiven. Take your hurt to God, ask Him to change your heart..

Next Step

Ask the Lord what your next step needs to be to truly surrender the hurt and un-forgiveness to Him. Perhaps it's taking the step of praying for that person sincerely or maybe it's writing a letter or making a phone call. In your time of prayer truly seek the Lord for your next step so that you can forgive and be set free.

Leader Tip

Offer a time of prayer for anyone that is currently dealing with a situation that needs prayer. During the next week, send an email of encouragement to your group and include a verse or two that you find helpful on forgiveness.