

Grace: *Love that sees the darkest stain and offers mercy that cleanses completely and loves extremely.*

Forgiving Grace starts with God. 1 John 1:8-9; Romans 8:1-2

God forgives: specifically, instantly, completely, repeatedly, freely.

Forgiving myself: a grace that...

- Creates a new life pattern. Philippians 2:12-13
- Creates a new future. Matthew 16:18; Galatians 2:19-21

Grace forgives others

Forgiving others is not: justifying action, denying hurts, ignoring wrong, confronting others.

Extending forgiving grace

Remember Isaiah 1:18, Matthew 18:32-35

Release Romans 12:17-19

Recognize Romans 8:28.

Reestablish Romans 12:18, Romans 12:21.

Repeat Matthew 6:14-15, Colossians 3:13

God's forgiving grace will replace heavy weights in your life. Hebrews 10:16; Psalm 38:4; Acts 13:38; Romans 4:7; 2Timothy 1:7; Hebrews 12:1-2

- Doubt to Assurance
- Guilt to Peace
- Grudges to Freedom
- Regret to Hope
- Fear to Courage

Life Group Questions

For week of May 17, 2015

Welcome, to prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect, encourage one another to grow and to see God change your lives from the inside out!

Getting to know you.

If you could relive one Good Day, what day would it be?

Going Deeper

Looking back over your sermon notes, what was one particular point or passage of Scripture that challenged, confused or caught your attention regarding this weekend's teaching?

Do a verse study of 1 John 1:9. List two key words and define them.

What does the verse say? (Paraphrase—Rewrite the verse in your own words.)

How can you apply the truth of this verse to your life today?

What do we learn about forgiveness in:

1 John 2:1-3

John 1:9

Hebrews 4:15–16

Psalms 32:5

Proverbs 28:13

Psalms 103:12

When we remember our great need for forgiveness and God's incredible provision, we become more open and willing to forgive others. Jesus addressed this issue in His response to a question Peter asked Him. What insights and principles do you learn about forgiveness from Jesus' straightforward answer and insightful parable in Matthew 18:21-35?

Looking at this passage and your sermon notes, write down what you think it means to "forgive as the Lord has forgiven you." (Colossians 3:13)

The "yeah but" question: I am wounded, I am broken, I don't have anything left. How can I extend forgiveness?

A: Give it to God; Leave it with God.

Releasing offense and extending grace

1. Say the person(s) name out loud.
2. Name the offense.
3. Speak the words of forgiveness.
4. Pray a blessing over the person(s).
5. Let your actions follow your belief not your feelings.