

Study Questions from 28.04.2019 sermon

Introduction

- i. Forgiveness is central to Christianity. It is one of the hardest things we are commanded to do. And Jesus takes it very seriously. What does Jesus say about forgiveness which shows us how seriously he takes it? (Refer to Bible passages if you can)

What happens when we are wronged?

- ii. J. Marsden mentions six things which happen: Pain, Anger, Payback, Divide, Playback Loop, Bitterness. Discuss these six things. Do you agree with them? Or not? Why?
- iii. In Matt. 18:21 Peter asks Jesus how many times he should forgive his brother or sister. Why do you think Peter asked that question? (Keep in mind the context and preceding verses)

Notice the numbers

- iv. Discuss the significance of 77 (v22). You may want to look up Gen. 4:23—24.
- v. Discuss the significance of 10,000 (v24).
- vi. How is forgiveness all about grace?
- vii. Why are there so many accounting words in the parable? What is Jesus teaching us? (see 1 Cor. 13:4—5)
- viii. Discuss the significance of 100 (v28).
- ix. According to v28, what might we do to the people we don't forgive?

How to forgive when we don't want to or feel we can't

- x. In the book 'Forgiveness' J. Marsden mentions 3 things which help us to forgive when we are struggling to do so: Change the Film, Get a Big Screen, Get a Mirror. How do these 3 things relate to the parable and help us forgive?

Tying up some loose ends

- xi. Here are six 'loose ends' with regards to forgiveness:
 - i. Forgiving others doesn't mean we become doormats
 - ii. Forgiveness is a 2 way transaction
 - iii. God isn't asking us to do something he's not done himself
 - iv. Forgiveness is painful
 - v. Forgiveness is a process
 - vi. Forgiveness is about the heart's desire (v35)

These were mentioned fairly briefly in the sermon. Now is your chance to select one and discuss it with your group in more depth!