



One Another

Forgive One Another Ephesians 4:31-5:2

Sept. 26, 2021

BIG Idea: Remembering the cross frees us to forgive those who hurt us.

You don't have to like someone to forgive them. But you are called to love them like Jesus loves you, sacrificially.

We are to live lives that exhibit to the world the character of Christ.

Forgiveness is the closest we can get to dying for someone without physical death. It requires dying to yourself on their behalf.

Forgiving one another is our opportunity to make Jesus famous for what He wants us to be famous for -- a people who love and forgive one another.

Forgiving someone is not forgetting what they have done. It is a choice to not hold their past against them.

We don't forgive others because they deserve it. We give forgiveness because we are called to. We give forgiveness because we trust in God, not in humanity.

Gospel forgiveness doesn't forget, it chooses to acquit.

The ultimate purpose of forgiveness is to restore relationships with God.

When we want God's very best for someone who has injured us, we are a reflection of God's forgiveness.

How can the world come to know the God who perfectly expresses forgiveness if His representatives don't demonstrate that forgiveness?

Until we can become a people who forgive one another, we will never be known for what Jesus wanted us to be known for -- a people who love and forgive one another.

Memory Verse: “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” – Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)

Other Scripture: Colossians 3:13; Matthew 6:9-15, 18:21-22; Luke 6:37, 23:34; Romans 12:14, 17-18, 21

Further Study:

Read: Ephesians 4:31-5:2 in your group or with at least one other person.

1. Have someone read it while everyone reads along.
2. Have someone else read it while everyone else listens.
3. Have someone recount the text from memory in their own words.

Discuss:

1. What does the passage reveal about God?
2. What does the passage reveal about humanity?

Act:

1. If this passage is from God, what should change about how you live?
2. Who needs to hear the truth of this Scripture that you can share it with this week? Identify a time this week when you might have the opportunity to share with them.