

**YOU ASKED FOR IT 2018**  
**WEEK THREE: *Giving and Receiving Forgiveness***  
Matthew 18:21-35, 2 Chronicles 33:10-13

***Giving Forgiveness...***

***Receiving Forgiveness...***

**Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study:**

***For Starters:*** Think of a time when you have given and/or received forgiveness? When have you withheld forgiveness from someone or when has someone refused to forgive you? How did this make you feel? Has it impacted any of your relationships? Why is it hard for us to forgive or be forgiven?

***Quick Fire Round:***

- How would you define forgiveness? Read Colossians 1:14, John 19:30, Psalm 103:12, 2 Peter 3:9. Discuss forgiveness in relation to God's actions toward us. Why is forgiveness an essential part of the Christian life?
- Read Matthew 18:21-35. What is Jesus saying in this parable about forgiveness? Read Matthew 6:12-15, Colossians 3:13, Hebrews 12:15, and Ephesians 4:31-32. Do we have any right *not* to forgive others? What are our consequences if we choose not to forgive?
- Read 2 Chronicles 33 and 2 Kings 21:1-18. Did Manasseh deserve to be forgiven? Is there a difference between asking forgiveness and true repentance? What does this story say about God's power to forgive you, our personal response to God's mercy, as well as dealing with the consequences of our past actions?
- Discuss the following regarding what *forgiveness is not*: Forgetting, forbearing, a feeling, private, avoiding consequences, or an automatic restoration of trust, other? How do these relate to your life and circumstances?
- Read Isaiah 1:18, 43:25, Ephesians 1:7-10, and Colossians 1:13-14. If we choose not to forgive ourselves or others, are we devaluing the work and power of Christ? Read and respond to 1 John 1:8-9, Ephesians 2:8-10 and Romans 12:1-2.

***Weekly Challenge:*** Is there someone in your life whom you need to forgive or ask forgiveness from? What is keeping you from making contact with that person? How can you practically receive God's forgiveness and in turn, forgive yourself? What could your life be like if you gave and received forgiveness?

***Forgiveness Resources:*** *Unpacking Forgiveness* – Chris Brauns; *Amish Grace* – Donald Kraybill; *Total Forgiveness* – R.T. Kendall; *Choosing Forgiveness* – Nancy Leigh DeMoss