



**Week of February 28, 2021**

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What has been your biggest takeaway from this series? How have you begun to apply these principles in your life and relationships? (As a group, celebrate and encourage life change that is happening.)
2. Paul Smith mentioned several reasons that we resist forgiving. What are the reasons you have resisted forgiving?
3. Read Luke 17:1-2. Which of these is true: 1) *"God is going to get you for doing wrong."* 2) *"All sin comes pre-packaged with a penalty."* What difference does it make which of those statements you believe?
4. Read Luke 17:3-5. What is the relationship between Jesus' teaching on forgiveness and the disciples' realization that their faith needed to grow? How are forgiveness and faith interrelated?
5. Paul Smith said, *"What my feelings won't allow, Jesus' forgiveness will surely cover."* As a Christ-follower, how is this truth helpful to counteract the resistance we have to forgiving? How does claiming this truth help you forgive now?

## **Moving Forward**

Your forgiveness doesn't happen by powering through. The secret to forgiveness isn't determination, but cooperation. The way I forgive is by asking God to extend the forgiveness He's given to me, and let it flow through me.

Tap into that power that is given to you through Jesus' forgiveness and the Holy Spirit's presence and empowerment in your life.

### **Luke 17:1-2**

Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. <sup>2</sup>It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble.

### **Luke 17:3-10**

<sup>3</sup>So watch yourselves. "If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. <sup>4</sup>Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" <sup>6</sup>He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.

<sup>7</sup>"Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? <sup>8</sup>Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? <sup>9</sup>Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.' "