



Unoffendable

Week 3: Forgiveness

CCV Groups Discussion Guide

OPENING QUESTION:

Would you rather give a stage presentation to a group of coworkers or have a hard conversation with a friend?

GROUPS VIDEO GUIDE

READ:

[Matthew 18:15-35](#)

DISCUSS:

- After reading Matthew 18:15–35, Ask someone to summarize verses 15–20 in their own words and someone else to summarize verses 21–35. Have everyone else identify what lesson(s) they would take away from this text.
- Pastor Ashley said forgiveness is NOT (1) saying it's ok; (2) it is not a feeling; (3) it is not forgetting; and (4) it is not the same as trust. Which of these four is most important to you right now?
- What does it mean to you to 'release the right to revenge'?

GROUP CHALLENGE:

Pull out the cards from the service this weekend that say, “What they took from me?” and “What do they owe me.” Give people five minutes of silence to fill it out. Share about the results and the experience.

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS:

Table Talk (a question to ask your family): Who do you need to forgive?

Water Cooler (a question to ask at work): Do you think forgiveness does more for the person who forgives or the one who is forgiven?

PRAYER:

Break your group into men and women. Have each person read this prayer together: “Father, I’ve held onto unforgiveness against say their name silently. I’m asking you to give me the strength to forgive them so I can be free from the trap of offense. My unforgiveness is making me bitter and holding me back from the future you want for me and my family. Today, I chose to forgive say their name silently the same way you’ve forgiven me.” Plan for some time to talk about what people are experiencing.

SCRIPTURES:

Proverbs 15:1, “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

Proverbs 29:11, “Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end.”

Ecclesiastes 7:5, “It is better to heed the rebuke of a wise person than to listen to the song of fools.”

Matthew 5:11–12, “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Matthew 5:44–45, “But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven...”

Matthew 6:14–15, “For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your father will not forgive your sins.”

Matthew 10:22, “You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.”

Matthew 12:36, “But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken.”

Luke 6:27–28, “But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.”

John 16:33, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

1 Corinthians 4:12–13, “...When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; when we are slandered, we answer kindly...”

2 Corinthians 12:10, “That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Romans 12:14, “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.”

Galatians 5:15, “If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.”

Ephesians 6:12, “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

Colossians 4:6, “Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

2 Timothy 3:12, “In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...”

1 Peter 2:21, 23, “To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps...When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.”

1 Peter 3:16–17, “...keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”