

LOVE...

WHERE YOU LIVE

Forgiveness

Matthew 18:21-35

1. Forgiveness originates with God.
2. Forgiveness provides us with freedom.
3. Forgiveness frees the offender to move forward.

Contrasts that Clarify:

Is not reconciliation

Is opportunity

Is not fair

Is grace

Is not a feeling

Is a decision

Is not escaping

Is accepting

Is not forgetting

Is not remembering

Is not excusing

Is releasing

Is not a single event

Is a continuous process

Is not natural

Is supernatural

Is not an option

Is an obligation

Download "Forgiveness" by Tim Hawks (04/24/16) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hcbc.com/media. CD's may be purchased at the Lakeline Campus Media Center.

My Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Read the story of the unmerciful servant in Matthew 18:21-35. Evaluate how this type of behavior plays itself out with Christians. Do you struggle with forgiveness?
2. If we choose to withhold forgiveness, how does it affect us? See Matthew 18 and Ephesians 4:26-32. Why does Jesus compare unforgiveness to a prison?
3. Look at the contrasts that clarify. Which contrast helps you most? Why?
4. Do you have anyone in your life that you haven't forgiven? What do you need to do to grant that forgiveness this week?

Memory Verse

"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

-Matthew 18:35