DIGGING DEEPER

These questions are designed for use in our Life Groups, but they also can be used in personal and family devotions.

Sermon: **Forgive & Forget? OR Forgive? Forget It!**
Scripture: *Matthew 18:21-35*

Getting Started

When someone seriously wrongs you, how easy do you find it to extend forgiveness to them? Mark an X on the continuum below to represent your typical response.

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Easy, No problem Not in this lifetime!

Bible Study Questions

1. Why do you suppose Peter posed this question about forgiveness (Matthew 18:21) to Jesus?
    - How do you think Peter and the other disciples responded to this teaching?

2. According to v. 27, why did the king in Jesus' parable extend such mercy to the servant?
    - How does that compare with the reason that God forgives us? See John 3:16 and Romans 5:8.

3. Why is the servant's offer to pay back his debt (v. 26) a hollow promise?

4. In one or two sentences, sum up the moral of the parable of the unmerciful servant?

5. On Sunday, Pastor Paul quoted from Psalm 32, written by David after his sin of adultery with Bathsheba and the murder of her husband Uriah. Psalm 51 was also penned by David after those sins were committed. Read Psalm 51:1-4. What specific things does David ask God to do for him in these verses?
    - Although David's sins affected others, he said in verse 4 "Against you, you only, have I sinned." What did he mean by that?

Apply It

Is there anyone against whom you are harboring bitter feelings, unable to forgive them for harm they have done you or your family? Commit this situation to God, asking Him to enable you to understand how much you have been forgiven, and to extend forgiveness to the guilty party in similar measure.

You are never more like God than when you forgive someone who has wronged you.