

Life Group Notes

Sunday 26th November 2023

Speaker: Sean Green

Title: A Duty To Forgive

Passage: Luke 17:1-10

Read Luke 17v1-10

v1-2 Watch yourselves. Jesus uses hyperbole to warn us against causing others to sin, in this instance by not forgiving a believer when they sin against us.

v3-4 Forgiveness. Jesus is clear, his followers are to seek reconciliation through rebuking then forgiving fellow believers, when they repent. Even if they keep repeating the sin.

v5-6 Faith. This is a hard teaching. Forgiveness is a faith issue and the disciples conclude they need more faith. They needed to understand that it is about the presence of faith, not the size (seed / tree). It's about the object of their faith (Jesus) not its amount. Weak faith in a strong branch is effective, strong faith in a weak branch isn't.

v7-9 Duty. His followers have a moral obligation to exercise their faith and forgive a believer who repents.

V10 Obedience. They are duty bound to forgive as they have been forgiven. Reconciliation is the goal, which requires forgiveness. Forgiveness requires faith, and faith needs to be exercised. Jesus is the worthy servant, our example and means of grace (unmerited favour to help us be more like Him).

Suggested Questions:

1. Forgiveness is offered, but trust is earned. How can we wisely forgive fellow believers who repent?
2. When do we just forgive someone in our heart and when do we approach a believer to tell them of the offence?