

Matthew 18:15-35

Forgiveness

Life is messy and complicated

In this mess we Christians are to be a people
characterised by forgiveness

Chris personal reflection

- Haven't put the Biblical pieces together
- I would struggle with forgiveness
- God wants me to forgive others

How does God forgive?

Ephesians 4:32 ESV Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you

Get into groups of about 8

Ask how does God forgive

- In what ways should our forgiveness reflect the way God forgives?
- Does God forgive everyone?
- How do you think God feels when someone doesn't accept His forgiveness
- What questions do you have about forgiveness?

Some biblical bits of the jigsaw puzzle

God forgives by addressing and dealing with the real issues so that we can be friends with Him again.

It's a sinful world

You will hurt

You will be hurt.

Default setting is toward forgiveness

- What about non Christians
- And the unrepentant?

God will deal with the bad stuff.

While God feels the pain, God deals with the
issues

For God forgiveness was costly

God's goal is reconciliation.

Be wise about how and when and what issues
you deal with.

- Can I deal with this issue by myself can I just choose to forgive and continue to be friends with the other person.
- Remember they are just like you.

Pray for that person

Love on the other person.

Ask how big and important and hurtful is the issue really?

IF you can't forgive ask God for help. And an opportunity

Remember you are just as guilty.

- Don't use the hurt as an excuse to sin
- Big difference between sorry for forgive me.

We forgive because God commands it- peace comes as an overflow of forgiveness.

Choose to forgive and trust God will deal with
it.

