

Nov. 2/3, 2019

Surprisingly Simple – Forgiveness

Review – Matthew 18

Main Points

1. Patience
2. Pity
3. Release

Reflect

1. **Read Isaiah 66:18-19.** As you think about this year so far, what chances have you had to make Jesus famous?
2. **Read the whole story: Matthew 18:21-35.** What stands out to you, and how does this story move from good news to hard news?
3. **Re-read v.26.** What does it mean to be patient? Why is that such a big request for someone to have patience with you?
4. **Re-read v.27.** What does pity mean? Why do you think we tend to see other people as one-dimensional and ourselves as multi-dimensional? How does that impact the way we forgive or don't forgive?
5. **Re-read v.27.** Release. What is the tension of justice and forgiveness? How does that impact our ability to set people free from what they have done?
6. **Read Hebrews 8:12 as a reminder of the grace Jesus has given us.**

Respond

1. You might have had someone come to mind right away, where you either need to forgive or ask forgiveness. Our encouragement is to pursue them today and take that next.
2. You might know what Jesus is asking you to do, but you just aren't ready or aren't sure. Our encouragement is to take a step to help. Check out our care and counseling options online.

Pray

Ask for prayer requests and take time to pray together as a group. Take 10-15 minutes to pray. Pray to be people who are marked by forgiveness – both asking for it, granting it, and receiving it.

Announcements

Challenge your community group to serve by the end of 2020.

Such as taking part in our annual Thanksgiving Baskets, helping a family in need, or connecting with a local ministry partner. An added bonus, be sure to watch for the Just Because initiative being announced soon.