

Week 4 – Turn

Ice Breaker

Share a situation where someone hurt you deeply or wronged you in a significant way. How did you respond initially?

Discussion Questions

1. Read Mark 11:25: "And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." Why is forgiveness so crucial for Christians, according to Jesus?
2. Read Hebrews 12:15, "See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God, and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many." The sermon states, "Hurt and anger are meant to be fleeting emotions, not permanent fixtures in our life." How can unforgiveness allow bitterness to take root? What are the consequences?
3. Read Genesis 45:5 "And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you." Despite his brothers' betrayal, Joseph forgave them. What enabled Joseph to forgive such a deep hurt?
4. The sermon outlines 3 aspects of forgiveness: 1) Releasing the right to retaliate; 2) Taking action towards restoration; and 3) Letting God be God. Discuss what each of these involves practically. Which one is most challenging?
5. Read Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." How does God's forgiveness towards us model and motivate us to forgive others?

Key Takeaway or Action Item:

Think through someone you need to forgive. Write them a letter expressing your forgiveness, whether you share it or not. Bring it next time to symbolize letting go of that hurt.