



Week of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### Key Scripture:

#### **Matthew 6:9–15 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
<sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
<sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread,  
<sup>12</sup> and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
<sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
<sup>14</sup> For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, <sup>15</sup> but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

#### **Matthew 18:21–35 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”  
<sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. [Read on, v23-31]  
[...] <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.  
<sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

### Discussion Questions:

If you’re willing to share it, **what is the most drastic example of unforgiveness that you have seen? And on the contrary, what is the most radical example of forgiveness?**

Ivor opened his message with an example about a person who wasn’t healed for many years due to unforgiveness. **Although we don’t see most healings come in this way, why was it so in this case? And, how did they discern this?**

Read Matthew 6:9-15. **What is the significance in Jesus’ warning about unforgiveness at the end of His teaching on the Lord’s Prayer? There are many sins that we may think of as more serious than unforgiveness. Why is us forgiving one another so important to God?**

During Jesus’ teaching on the Lord’s Prayer, He calls us to a daily asking of forgiveness from God, and daily giving of forgiveness to others. **Is this, in both directions, currently happening in our lives? Why does Jesus call us to daily repentance and forgiveness?**

A few weeks ago someone shared: “We judge others by their actions, but we judge ourselves only by our intentions.” Read Luke 6:41-42. **Is it easier to know what others need to forgive rather than yourself? How can you practice a self-examination which reveals these areas?**

Read Proverbs 19:11. **Overlooking an offense seems alien in our culture today, so why is it “to our glory”?**

Ivor, on Sunday, shared a powerful story of a Jewish prisoner & a Nazi concentration camp soldier who had both since become Christians. **What did you take from that tough example of forgiveness?**

Ivor shared 5 keys to walking out forgiveness: 1) Confess unforgiveness before God; 2) Forgive the person; 3) Pray a blessing on the person; 4) Rebuke the devil; 5) Receive the forgiveness & the anointing of God upon yourself. **Why is each of these steps vital?**

**Do you sense God calling you to forgive someone today?**