



Make the decision to forgive before you have the opportunity to forgive.

Luke 17:1-6 (ESV)

1. Evaluate

Luke 6:41-42

2. Communicate

"Rebuke with soft words and hard arguments." — Proverb

3. Eliminate

"Forgiveness doesn't excuse their behavior, it prevents their behavior from destroying your heart." — Unknown

Hebrews 12:14-15; Ephesians 4:31-32

Is communication needed for a situation that needs reconciliation?

If you dug down deep in your heart, would you find a root of bitterness?

Small Group Outline & Discussion Questions

Celebrate and Care:

Have each person share a high and low from this past week.

Review:

Make the decision to forgive before you have the opportunity to forgive.

Open Up:

On a scale of 1-10 with 10 being very disrupted and 1 being at peace, where would you place your current level of personal angst and why?

Discuss:

Choose one or two questions for your group to discuss as time allows.

- ▶ How can we "make the decision to forgive before we have the opportunity to forgive"?
- ▶ Read Luke 17:1-6 (ESV) and Ephesians 4:31-32.
 - What is similar and what is different in these two passages?
 - What is challenging to you when you read these passages?
- ▶ Pastor Matt quoted, "Forgiveness doesn't excuse their behavior, it prevents their behavior from destroying your heart." - Unknown. Read Hebrews 12:14-15 (NLT). How could unforgiveness destroy your heart?

Engage:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with these questions then share your thoughts.

Read Luke 6:41-42 (NLT). What is a next step you could/should take toward forgiving like Jesus did?

Pray:

Pray for our country to be the United States of America and not the divided states of America.