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Digging Into God's Great Incredible Never-ending Grace

PURSUING MATURITY

WEEK 6

FORGIVENESS

(Keeping a clean slate)

Nothing is more precious than to know that God has forgiven you. The debt that you once owed has been paid in full through the blood of Jesus and your sins have been washed away. But because God has forgiven us we are also to forgive others. We have a responsibility not only to keep a clean slate with God, but also with others in our lives.

GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Take a look at the following verses. What resource does forgiveness come from?

Psalms 85:2 _____

Ephesians 1:7 _____

Psalms 86:5 _____

Colossians 1:14 _____

SEEKING FORGIVENESS

How do we receive forgiveness?

Psalms 32:5 _____

1 John 1:9 _____

Leviticus 5:5 _____

What are we to do when we wrong others?

Matthew 5:23-24 _____

Mark 11:25-26 _____

CONFESSION

What does James 5:16 tell us to do with our weaknesses?

James 5:16

Do you think this is helpful or not?

FORGIVING OTHERS

What are some responsibilities that come with forgiveness?

Matthew 6:12 _____

Matthew 6:14-15 _____

Matthew 18:21-22 _____

What does seventy times seven mean to you?

What key point does Jesus emphasize in the following passage?

Matthew 18:35 _____

RESENTMENT & BITTERNESS

What connection with sin do you see in the following verses?

Isaiah 38:17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

Hebrews 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

Ephesians 4:31-32 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Why should we forgive? _____

Does forgiving someone free you or them? Explain.

Why do you think it's so hard to forgive others when they have wronged you?

THE SINFUL WOMAN (Luke 7:37-48)

Luke 7:37-50 And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spoke within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged. And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

Describe the type of faith you think this woman showed?

What thoughts do you think could have ran thru her mind as she approached Jesus?

What kind of things do you think the devil could have been telling her as she came closer to Jesus?

What response did she get from Jesus? _____

In light of this story what does verse 47 say to you about your own life?
