

# Be with One Another

## Discussion Guide

Week of June 25 - **"Forgive One Another"**

**Scripture verse: Matthew 18:21-35**

### **LOOKING BACK:**

Last week we asked the Holy Spirit to bring someone to mind that needs us to "bear better" with them. Were you able to deal with this person in a different way in light of how Jesus tells us to bear with one another? Ask a quieter member of the group to share.

**OPENING QUESTION:** Imagine you are given a set of scales. One side holds the weight of how much forgiveness you expect for yourself. The other holds the amount of forgiveness you traditionally offer to others. Are the scales equal or imbalanced? If there is a difference in weights, which side is heavier?

### **LOOKING UP:**

1. Read Matthew 18:21-35, known as The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant.
2. Is there a limit on your forgiveness? Is it two times? Ten times? Do you withhold forgiveness for certain reasons? Unrepentance from the person who hurt you?
3. Keeping in mind the Jewish practice at the time was to offer forgiveness three times, reread Matthew 18:21-22. What do you think Jesus's expectations are with verse 22?

**READ THE PASSAGE****Matthew 6:14-15****Colossians 3:12-14**

Answer the first 2 questions after reading the passage

1. What stood out to you most?
2. What was challenging or hard to understand?
3. What does this teach us about God?
4. What does this teach us about people?

**RE-READ THE PASSAGE**

Read the passages again using another Bible translation... then answer the last 2 questions

**LOOKING FORWARD:**

1. Let's take 3-4 minutes to pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to bring to mind anyone to whom we've withheld forgiveness. Possibly the same person you walked through the forgiveness steps with Andrew during the service on Sunday.
2. Looking toward the week ahead, are there tangible steps you can take to offer forgiveness to this individual for the first, second, or 77th time? *If willing, have your group pair off and share their ideas with a partner for accountability.*
3. Close in prayer, asking God to give courage to extend forgiveness to the individuals He brought to mind.