Study based on the sermon
from May 7, 2017, *Learning to Forgive*
from the sermon series …

RISE

As We Forgive

RELATE

What idea, insight, illustration or instruction from Rob's sermon or Melissa's testimony helped you?

Is it harder to forgive people close to you or people you don't know? Why is that?

Rob called unforgiveness a "ceiling", saying, "The altitude of the life we live will be determined by the grace we give." How does unforgiveness keep people down and from growing?

READ & REFLECT

Colossians 3:12-13   Luke 11:4   Luke 23:34

Why is forgiveness a Christian value? Is it taught in the Old Testament as well as the New? Where do you see forgiveness at work in our culture generally?

In what ways are resentment, grudges, and shutting out people who have hurt us satisfying? Why are these ineffective? Is forgiving meant to be completely satisfying for us? How is it

How hard is it to "give up our right to be right"? How do we learn to do this, and help others learn to do it?

What happens in us when we don't forgive? What does forgiveness accomplish? What is it meant to do for us? What does it do for the person being forgiven?

How does remembering our own failings and need of forgiveness help us learn to forgive? Why is it important for us to remember our own failings and need for forgiveness as we seek to forgive? How does that really help?

Is there a risk in forgiving too easily or readily? What do we fear will happen when we minimize an injury or offense, or pretend it didn't happen? How do we help someone who has hurt or offended us understand how what they did affected us while at the same time forgiving them? Or do we?

If forgiving means that the consequences aren't up to me, does it mean there are no consequences at all? What does it mean? How has learning to forgive grown your relationship with God?

RESPOND

Next Step   Ask yourself "Whom do I need to truly, fully forgive? From whom do I need to ask for forgiveness?" What step toward forgiving or seeking forgiveness will you take today?

Reflect   And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. Luke 11:4a