

**WEEK OF:** 5/22/16

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone." Romans 12:17-18 (NLT)

**\*\*\*Remember to listen to this week's sermon, review the Sermon Notes Sheet and complete the discussion questions before attending your Connection Group.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Jesus took that the matter of forgiveness and reconciliation very seriously. He was concerned enough to give us detailed instructions about how to confront people who wound us—and what to do if they refuse to admit they're wrong.

In this week's sermon and Connexion Group lesson you will answer the questions: How do I forgive him? How do I forgive her?

**OPENING DISCUSSION QUESTION**

What was most helpful, encouraging, or challenging from this week's sermon?

**GROUP LESSON DISCUSSION**

1. How do you typically handle disagreements or conflicts with another person?
2. Do you have an unresolved relationship in your past or present? What feelings surface when you think about that person?
3. Read Matthew 18:15-20. Why do you think Christians rarely follow these simple steps of reconciliation?

What would it feel like to walk through this process as the one who was sinned against?

What would it feel like to walk through this process as the one who was sinning?

4. Why does Jesus place the burden of resolving the conflict on the offended person rather than on the offender?

What attitude do you think you should exhibit when you confront the person who has wounded you?

What are the benefits of taking two or three people with you the second time?

5. What will (hopefully) be accomplished by taking the extreme measure of verse 17? For help read 1 Corinthians 1:5:1-8 and 2 Corinthians 2:5-11.

What promises does Jesus make to those who are faithful in the areas of resolving conflict and pursuing reconciliation (vv. 19-20)?

## next steps

As you take steps toward restoring any broken relationships in your life, take time to read the following Bible passages this week.

Day 1: Romans 12:9-13

Day 2: Romans 12:14-16

Day 3: Romans 12:17-18

Day 4: Romans 12:19-21

Day 5: Matthew 18:15-20

Day 6: Matthew 18:21-35

Day 7: 1 Corinthians 4:5 and 2 Corinthians 5:10