



HOW GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO OUR WORSHIP

1. Read the Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 66 and 67 in Lord's Day 25. How does baptism show us the extent of God's forgiveness?

2. How does the Lord's Supper show us the extent of God's forgiveness?

KINGDOM BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

1. People like it when others tell them they've done something wrong. However, the good news of the gospel must always be preceded by the bad news - we're all sinners. How can the church effectively communicate the reality of our sin and the necessity of forgiveness without being unnecessarily offensive?

2. Given that all Christians sin, how can we call for others to come to repentance and faith for the forgiveness of sins without appearing to be hypocrites?



LIFE GROUP
QUESTIONS
FALL 2021 | WEEK 6

The Lord's Prayer

Why we pray,
"forgive us
our debts,
as we also
have forgiven
our debtors"

OCTOBER 31, 2021





(RE)CONNECTING

WHAT WE BELIEVE

1. Read the Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 51. It ends by saying, "Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of your grace in us, to forgive our neighbors." According to the Catechism, why are we fully determined to forgive our neighbors?

2. Read Matthew 18:21-35. In your own words, what point or points is Jesus making by telling this parable?

3. According to Jesus in Matthew 18:22, we must forgive our brothers and sisters seventy-seven times. Read Matthew 18:15. What does this forgiveness look like?

4. Were the main characters in Jesus' parable, the king, the unforgiving servant, and the servant who owed the unforgiving servant, sinners?

5. Verse 24 says the unforgiving servant owed the king ten-thousand talents. A talent was worth 20 years' wages. Could the servant ever repay his debt?

6. The unforgiving servant ran into another servant who owed him a hundred denarii (verse 28). A denarii is a days' wage. Could the debtor ever repay the unforgiving servant?

7. The king in our text demands payment, determines to sell his servant, his wife, his children, and all that he had so that the king might get the money he's owed. After the king forgave his servant's debt, he then changed his mind. Most translations (though not the ESV) mention that the king then handed the unforgiving servant over to jailers so that he might be tortured. Does the king represent a mirror image of God? Why or why not?

8. Does this parable teach a form of "works righteousness"? Why or why not?

HOW GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO OUR LIVES

1. Let's assume Jesus' parable ends at verse 27 and the king's servant went on to enjoy his new freedom from the tremendous debt he owed the king. Would the king be wrong to no longer lend money to the servant? Why or why not?

2. Our text doesn't leave any wiggle room for us as Christians. We MUST forgive those who have wronged us. Suppose a man murdered your loved one and you forgave him. Does Christian forgiveness require that we invite a person who murdered our loved one into our home? Why or why not?

HOW GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO OUR FAMILY

1. Our family members can often hurt us more deeply than others because we expect them to love us, we make ourselves vulnerable to them because we trust them, and they know us well enough to know how to hurt us. What healthy boundaries have you established with your family members that allow you to maintain a God-honoring relationship with them? How can your life group help you forgive family members who've hurt you?

2. Jesus tells us in Matthew 18:15, "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother." Jesus is telling the disciples that two things must happen after we've been sinned against. 1. We must share our grievance with the person who sinned against us. 2. The person who sinned against us should listen to us. Is this how forgiveness happens in our families? What benefits do you see in following Jesus' approach to confronting and forgiving others? Why might this approach be difficult?

