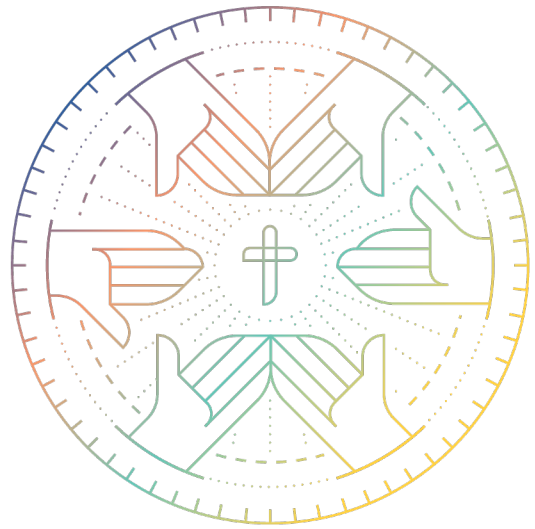


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

More Than a Story: “Unreasonable Forgiveness”  
Scripture Focus: Matthew 18:21-35

## ICEBREAKER

What’s something small that really gets under your skin?

OR

Have you ever expected a negative consequence for something, but instead received forgiveness? What happened?

## INTRODUCTION

This week, we continued our *More Than a Story* series by exploring one of Jesus’ most powerful and challenging parables—*The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant* (Matthew 18:21–35). Jesus was a master storyteller, and through this parable, He confronts a question we’ve all wrestled with: *How many times do I have to forgive someone?*

What stood out to you from Pastor David’s message?

## INTO THE WORD

**Read Matthew 18:21–22, Psalm 103:12, and Isaiah 1:18.** What do you think Peter expected Jesus to say and why do you think Jesus responds with such an “unreasonable” number? How do God’s words in Psalm 103:12 and Isaiah 1:18 help you understand forgiveness differently?

**Read Matthew 18:23–27, Hebrews 9:22, and 2 Corinthians 5:21.** What do we learn about God’s justice and mercy from the king in this parable? How does the cross of Jesus help us understand the weight and cost of forgiveness?

**Read Matthew 18:28–35, Romans 12:14–21, and Matthew 6:15.** Why do you think he acted this way? How does this part of the story challenge your own approach to forgiveness? What do Jesus’ words in Matthew 6:15 reveal about the condition of our hearts?

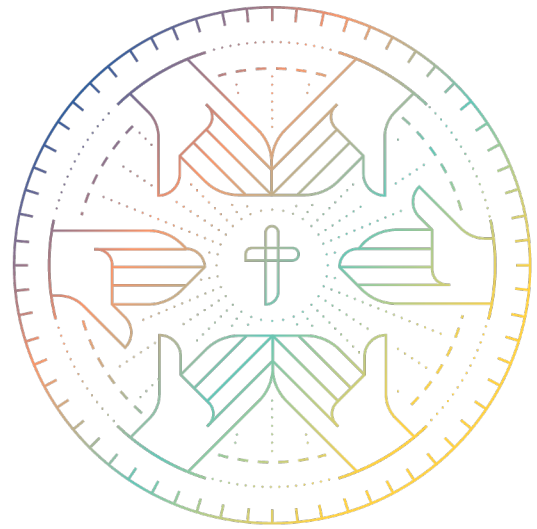
## APPLICATION

**Memorize Ephesians 4:32:** “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER

---



- Consider the cost of unforgiveness and ask yourself if there is someone you need to forgive.

## EMBRACE AND EMBODY

Forgiveness may be one of the most difficult commands to obey—and one of the most powerful ways we reflect the heart of God. Each day this week, reflect on how much you've been forgiven, and ask God for strength to forgive others. You might begin your day with Psalm 103:12 or Ephesians 4:32, writing down how God has shown you mercy. Then, take one step of forgiveness—whether it's praying for someone, releasing resentment, or even starting a conversation.

## PRAYER

Close your time by inviting someone to pray:

- Thank God for His extravagant, undeserved forgiveness.
- Ask for courage to extend forgiveness where it's needed.
- Pray for healing and release from any bitterness or burden.