



Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide: Unconditional? Week 2: March 17, 2019

Recap:

- Our stories don't end with the pain that someone else brought to our life, it is where our real story often times begins.
- Forgiveness is capable of acknowledging that what was done what was wrong. Forgiveness for us isn't a call to forget. Forgiveness is a call to renounce revenge. I remember what you did and how it hurt. Despite that, God will take what you did and work it for good.
- Forgiveness is trusting God with our pain, trusting God with the person who caused us pain, and trusting God with the ability redeem all things and work all things together for good even when it seems impossible to see anything else.
- The Scriptures invite us to imagine that Jesus could take himself off the cross, call forth an
- army, and defeat those who had placed him on that cross. But instead, Jesus remained on the cross. He suffered and died. And in those moments, as the crowd gathered around looked on, Jesus took a breath and said, "Father, forgive them..."
- Forgiveness is not just something done by Jesus; it is something he taught his followers to do.

Discuss:

1. READ Genesis 50:15-21
2. Why do you think Joseph's brothers lied about their father's last words?
3. Why do you think that Joseph says he will provide for his brother even after all the harm they did to him? Do you think he noticed something about forgiveness in his life?
4. READ Romans 8:28
5. How is this verse comforting for Christians?
6. What do you think the phrase "according to his purpose" entails or means?
7. READ Luke 23:33-34
8. What do you think those who crucified Jesus thought they were doing? How does Jesus take what they did for good?
9. READ Luke 11:4
10. How can you use Jesus as a model for forgiveness?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

Read at Home: Additional Readings about Forgiveness

- Leviticus 19:18
- Matthew 17:3-4
- Ephesians 4:31-32