

HOCKESSIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
7250 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin Delaware 19707
302-239-3030
Sermon Study Notes For Small Groups Or Individuals
Notes for August 26, 2018

Sermon Title: The Practice of Forgiveness

Text: John 13:31-35

Group Discussion: Have you ever struggled with forgiving someone? How did you work through your struggle?

Individual Discussion: Why do you believe the practice of forgiveness is so difficult?

1. Pastor Vern stated in his sermon that “forgiveness is the way of Christ and it is a way that leads to a fuller and richer life.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement?
2. What do you believe Jesus meant when he stated “seventy-seven times”?
3. In your opinion, is forgiveness a choice? Why or why not?
4. In the parable for today’s sermon, a man experiences undeserved mercy and compassion from one to whom he owes a significant debt. Instead of shaping and defining his dealings with others by the mercy he has undeservedly received, he immediately turns to the one who owes him a much smaller debt and demands the account be paid and the debt settled. Why is this disturbing?
5. Was the master who extended mercy wrong for throwing the man in jail once he discovered what had happened? Why? Why not?
6. Forgiveness is a discipline that is practiced. How do Christians practice forgiveness?
7. Forgiveness is not forgetting nor is it allowing ourselves to enter back into relationships where we are taken advantage of? Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?
8. What does it mean to you to live a life thoroughly shaped by forgiveness?
9. What is your suggestion for Christians who struggle with this mandate?
10. What have you learned from this message and lesson?

