

CAFÉ CHURCH SERMON SERIES

STUDY GUIDE



Theme: **What is Forgiveness**

Bible Readings: **Colossians 1: 9 – 14 & Colossians 3: 12 - 17**

Reflection:

Two key points that are interlinked. We have had our sins forgiven by God. THEREFORE we are asked in turn to forgive those who have sinned against / upset us.

Part 1:

Focus on Colossians 1: 13 – the gospel in a nutshell.

Eschatological forgiveness – it goes on and on, it never runs out.

Imputed Righteousness – God sees Christ in you.

Part 2:

Forgiving others can be very challenging.

Greek word: 'Aphiemi' – literally means to let go, release and leave behind.

God is NOT asking us to do something He was not willing to do.

Sometimes we reserve the hardest judgement for ourselves.

Application:

It is recognised that much (physical) illness is linked to stress, guilt, anger, jealousy etc. So to walk in forgiveness can be life-changing.

Often a process, rather than an event.

Questions?

1. Discuss your understanding of the term 'eschatological forgiveness'.
2. What is 'imputed righteousness' and how does it affect your understanding of yourself.
3. Spend some time unpacking the full impact of the word '*Aphiemi*' from which we get our English word forgiveness.
4. [If willing] share something of your own journey of forgiving someone – or the struggles you have forgiving someone else.
5. Have you ever been angry with God? [Share if comfortable].
6. Do you reserve your harshest judgement for yourself?

Personal Application (Optional)?

1. Reflect on the fact that God has completely, totally, and absolutely forgiven you for every sin – past, present and future. Remember to thank Him for your salvation.
 2. Think about how God sees you – as His precious child, bought with a price, loved, cherished, precious.
 3. Is there anyone that you need to forgive?
-