Study Guide

| OPEN | |
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| Share about a time when you felt that you had hurt someone unintentionally or when you felt deeply hurt by somebody's behavior. How did you deal with the situation? Did you ask for/extend forgiveness? If so, how did it make you feel? If not, what stops you from resolving the issue today? | |
| resolving the issue today: | |
| When we are hurt, our tendency is to nurse our grievances. Praying 'Forgive us our debts as we forgiven our debtors' reminds us that while some may have sinned against us, we too have sinned against others. It establishes the fact that each of us is a debtor | |
| to the other and above all in God's debt. | |
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| In this session, Ranjit explores how being forgiven and extending forgiveness go hand in hand in the Lord's prayer. We forgive because we have been forgiven. Not | |
| to forgive when we have been forgiven would be petty. | |
| As you watch, write down how Ranjit answers these questions. | |
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| What is a debt and in what way are we all debtors? | |
| What is repentance and why is it a necessary part of our Christian lives? | |
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| What are the two ways in which we understand forgiveness? | |
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| What's the difference between excusing and forgiving? | |
| What does the ability to extend forgiveness indicate | |
| about the condition of our hearts? | |
| WATCH | |
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| SESSION 6: Forgive Us Our Debts (10 minutes) | |

| REVIEW | |
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| Ranjit explains that a debt is something we owe someone. He then goes on to speak about spiritual and moral debts. In what way are we spiritually and morally 'debtors'? To whom do we owe this debt? | |
| What is repentance and why is it a necessary part of our Christian lives? Do you think repentance is a prerequisite for forgiveness? Why or why not? | |
| Ranjit lists down two ways in which we can understand forgiveness—what are they? How do they differ from each other? Talk about some situations in which you would seek to be justified and others in which you'd seek sanctification. | |
| Ranjit points out that there is a difference between excusing and forgiving. When do we excuse someone and when do we forgive? What is the heart difference between the two? | |
| If you were at the receiving end, would you choose to be forgiven or excused? Does one seem more humiliating to you than the other? | |
| What does the ability to extend forgiveness say about the condition of our hearts? | |
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| BIBLE | EXPI | .ORAT | TION |
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| Read Matthew 18: 21—35 and Matthew 5:7. What is the context under which Jesus tells His disciples this parable? According to Him, how many times must we forgive someone? What do you think Jesus meant? | |
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| Do you think the servant was unjust to ask for what was rightfully his? If not, what makes his actions appear nexcusable? | |
| n what ways are we guilty of holding ourselves and our oved ones to one standard while expecting others to follow another? | |
| Read Romans 2:4, Acts 3:19, Proverbs 28:13, 2 Peter 3:9, Joel 2:13, Isaiah 30:15. What is the warning held forth in the book of Romans? Are there times when you take God's kindness for granted or chalk it up to your goodness? How does this verse serve as a warning? | |
| According to these verses, what are the promises that we are given when we choose to repent? | |
| Why do you think the Bible emphasizes repentance? In what way is it a central part of our Christian lives? | |
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| LAST WORD | |
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| In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus asked his listeners, "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in | |
| your own eye?" He advises, "You hypocrite, first take the | |
| plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye." (Matthew | |
| 7:3—5) | |
| All too often, we resent shortcomings in another, while | |
| condoning the same in ourselves. When at the receiving end of sin, we tend to respond with self-righteousness | |
| and self-pity. The truth however is that we are all sinners who desperately fall short of God's standards. When we | |
| examine the Biblical principles of grace and mercy, we find that while God's grace gives us <i>unmerited</i> favor, His | |
| mercy protects us from <i>merited</i> wrath. | |
| Since God has extended both to us, can we return the | |
| favour to another? | |
| LIVE IT OUT | |
| Select at least one activity below to complete before | |
| watching the next session. | |
| Memorize: Read Luke 6:37 and commit it to memory. | |
| Meditate: Whom have you sinned against? Have you | |
| asked for forgiveness? Who has sinned against you? What stops you from extending forgiveness? | |
| Pray: Thank God for the grace and mercy that He has | |
| extended to you. Ask Him to give you the strength to | |
| extend the same grace and mercy to another. | |

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