

Jesus Said What!?

Week 1

You Have to Forgive *Them!*

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.'"
Matthew 6:9-12 NIV

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."
Matthew 6:14-15 NIV

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."
Matthew 5:23-24 NIV

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you ..."
Matthew 5:43-44 NIV

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
Colossians 3:13 NIV

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- When you were younger, what did you and your siblings or friends fight over the most?
- What kind of behavior do you find the most annoying, online or in person?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What grudges are you having difficulty letting go?
- Why does the thought of forgiving others often provoke an emotional response?
- Read Matthew 5:23-24. Why does forgiveness matter so much to God?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- How do you forgive something that seems unforgivable?
- How can you encourage yourself to pray even when you don't feel like praying?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for setting the perfect example for us. Thank You for teaching us how to forgive others through the forgiveness You've offered us. Help us to live at peace and to rejoice in the freedom You've given us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- If you've been holding onto a grudge, spend time in prayer. Ask God to free you from the bitterness you've been a prisoner to and to help you in seeking reconciliation.