

mended | when people wound

8 January
2017

Forgiveness

- The **measure** of forgiveness
- The **meaning** of forgiveness
- The **myths** of forgiveness
- The **method** of forgiveness
- The **motive** of forgiveness

Thinking & talking through the biblical text during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps. Here are some key questions to get you started.

Reflection Questions:

- Have you ever expected a bill (phone, cable, insurance) to be one thing and it ended up being another?
- What are some common emotions we go through when we are misled or lied to?
- Why do you think human beings expect or desire others to be loyal and honest with them?

Read **Matthew 26:16-16; 47-50**

- What seemed to motivate Judas' betrayal of Jesus?

Read **Matthew 27:1-5**

- How would you describe Judas' emotional state? How do you think he felt?

Read **Matthew 26:69-75**

- What seemed to motivate Peter's denials of Jesus?
- How would you describe Peter's emotional state? How do you think he felt?
- How do you respond to this statement:
We have all wounded people we love and been wounded as well. We have all been guilty of betraying people, breaking trust, or misleading people we love. "Wounded people wound."

Read **John 21:4-17**

- Peter and Judas had both wounded Jesus with their denial and betrayal. What do you think is the difference between Judas' response to his sin and Peter's response to his sin?
- What do you think is the key to Peter's mended relationship with Jesus?
- What was Jesus' posture and attitude with Peter?

Living it Out

- How have you seen this in people's lives? When have you seen broken trust or relationships mended?
- How can we as the family and body of Christ model being "mended"?
- How can we be the kind of people that support the mending of wounds today?
- What are some situations that could use "menders" right now in our city/country?
- How can we be a people that encourage wounds to be properly mended?
- If "wounded people wound" can "mended people mend"?

On your own

- What did you learn about forgiveness?
- Is there any area, issue, person where you need to forgive someone?
- How are you going to go about doing that? What step(s) will you take this week?