

Image and Identity

Group Guide:
Week 3

CONNECT BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING

- What summer activities are you looking forward to?
- What were your highs and lows in the past week?
- When was the last time someone forgave you for something you did? What was that experience like?

INTRODUCTION

We are in the third week of our sermon series Image and Identity: A God's Eye View of What It Means to be Me. This week, we're exploring the idea that hurt people hurt people. In other words, we all sin and we all experience being sinned against by others; yet God has healing and freedom for us from both.

DISCUSS

Read: Matthew 18:23-35

Discuss:

- What is happening in this parable? Re-tell the story in your own words.
- In light of our own forgiveness in Christ, how does this mean we are to treat others?

Read: Matthew 6:9-15

Discuss:

- What are the stakes that God places on forgiveness in this passage? How does this relate to the parable of the unforgiving servant you just read?

Read: Isaiah 53:1-6

Discuss:

- Based on this passage, describe Jesus' disposition towards those who have hurt him.
- What hope might this passage give you when you are the one who has been hurt?

PRAY

Return to Matthew 6:9-15, the passage Pastor Adam preached from on Sunday. This passage begins with the words "Pray then like this:"... so in your time of prayer today, do exactly that!

Using each line of the Lord's prayer, take a moment to pray the main idea in your own words, using your real life situations. For example, what is the daily bread that you need today? Who do you need to forgive? What do you need to be forgiven of? Take some time to pray together or individually in the way that Jesus has instructed us.