

Totally Worth it Part 4: Getting Past the Past Discussion Questions

What are the qualities of a great relationship?

What stood out to you during the message? Was there anything you disagreed with?

What is anger?

Read Collosions 3:12-13

13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.

What does it mean to make allowance for each others faults? What is the reason Paul gave for Christians to forgive others? Does that seem like a good enough reason for you?

According to Lewis Smedes "Forgiveness is an act of love that heals the hurts we don't deserve." How is it an act of love? Why does it heals the hurts we don't deserve? How can that act of love, as Paul says, bind us all together in perfect harmony?

What are some of the reasons people give as to why they won't forgive?

Read Matthew 18:21-35 NLT

Parable of the Unforgiving Debtor

21 Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone[a]who sins against me? Seven times?"

22 "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven![b]

23 "Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. 24 In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars.[c]25 He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

26 "But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' 27 Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

28 "But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars.[d] He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

29 "His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded. 30 But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

31 "When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. 32 Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' 34 Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt. 35 "That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters[e] from your heart."

Why is God so severe in response to those who don't forgive others from their heart?
What do we learn about what it means to forgive from this parable?

In his book "Forgive and Forget," Lewis Smedes said "Forgiveness is unfair, but it makes things fairer." How is this so?

What did you learn from the story of Corrie Ten Boom?
What did you learn from the story of Craig Groeschel?

What are some signs that show that you have begun to forgive?

What difference has forgiving other people made in your life?
What about being forgiven by others?

Is there anyone you need to forgive? Is there anything this group can do to support you in this?