

The Good News of Forgiveness

July 19, 2018

This week, we will consider forgiveness of others as a lens to learn more about God's forgiveness of us!

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

-Psalm 32:1

Why is it hard to ask for forgiveness?

How can we overcome some of these barriers?

Read Psalm 32.

What observations can you make?

1. I will find joy in forgiveness! (Psalm 32:1)
2. I am deep in deceit when I try to conceal sin (Psalm 32:2)
3. Unconfessed sin will weigh us down (Psalm 32:3-4)
4. I must own my sin rather than covering it (Psalm 32:5)

What does godly sorrow look like?

1. Brokenness over sin (Psalm 51:17)
2. Softening the heart (Ephesians 4:17-19)
3. Produces repentance (2 Corinthians 7:10)
4. Running to God, not from God

Read Genesis 33:1-11.

What observations can you make?

1. I may face great emotions (Genesis 32:3-8)
2. I must humble myself before God (Genesis 32:10)
3. I must spend time in prayer (Genesis 32:10-12)
4. I must trust God's promises (Genesis 32:12)
5. I must humble myself before the offended (Genesis 33:3)
6. There is great relief in reconciliation (Genesis 33:4)
7. **We are not designed for division!**

How can forgiveness become our *lifestyle*?

What are the characteristics of repentance and of forgiveness?