



## **Summer Bible Series- June 22, 2022**

### **The Power of Forgiveness Handout for Class**

**1. Definition of Forgiveness:** Forgiveness means to pardon someone for a fault or offense committed against you, according to Holman's Illustrated Bible Dictionary.

When studying the word "forgive," you will discover it is an action verb that expresses something we, as Christians, must do. The term "forgiveness" is the act of forgiving someone or the willingness to forgive someone for a committed against you.

#### **2. As Christians, why should we forgive?**

- We forgive because the Word of God instructs us to forgive. After all, He has forgiven us. (Ephesians 4:30-32)
- Jesus teaches us to forgive even as we pray and the consequences if we do not forgive others. ( Mark 11:25-26).
- As Jesus hung on the cross between two thieves, He demonstrated His love and compassion for us; by praying for God the Father to forgive those crucifying him. God answered his prayer request, opening the way for salvation for one of the thieves and us. (Luke 23-43)

#### **3. As Christians, how many times are we expected to forgive?**

- Jesus answers Peter's question by saying seventy times seven, which means as many times as it takes. ( Matthew 18:21-22).

#### **4. As Christians, is it difficult to forgive and also forget?**

- The story of Joseph teaches us several things, but one of those lessons includes teaching us to forgive even if we do remember the wrong done to us. (Genesis 37-45)
- God was with Joseph and blessed him despite the harm his brothers meant to cause him, which opened the door for forgiveness and reconciliation.