

Sunday AM Sermon – March 21, 2021

# Family Roots: Forgiveness

Genesis 50:15-21



Forgiveness ... it's such an idealistic concept, but oh so hard to practice. Families are often torn apart by acts that are inexcusable, but forgiveness has the potential to repair. As we continue to look at root problems and root solutions, let's look at forgiveness.



1. Mark the number of times you hear these words:

Forgive(ness) –

Joseph –

Heart –

2. What is the difference between excusing and forgiveness?
3. What did Joseph experience at the hands of his brothers?
4. What does forgiveness include?
5. Lesson one: \_\_\_\_\_ what happened rather than \_\_\_\_\_ what happened
6. What makes it hard to forgive?
7. What does forgiveness not depend on?
8. Lesson two: \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ rather than become \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_
9. What stunning reality did King David point out in Psalm 51?
10. Lesson three: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
11. What does bitterness kill?
12. How is it that no one ever really “gets away” with anything?
13. What are some things we can do to be forgiving?
14. Lesson four: Consider what is \_\_\_\_\_, not just what is \_\_\_\_\_
15. What is the attitude of forgiveness?
16. How did Joseph's forgiveness affect our lives?



## Faith Talk, Faith Walk

*Spend time with family or friends (maybe over a meal or during a family devotional) discussing the following related to the sermon*

**Faith Talk:** What do you find difficult about practicing forgiveness?

**Faith Walk:** If there is something unforgiven in your heart, ask God's help, and forgive.

*If you are here and have been touched or convicted by something said or done today we would love to study the Bible with you and introduce you more fully to our Savior, Jesus Christ. Just call the church office at 795-4377 and we will set something up. God bless you!*

Next Sunday AM Sermon – Family Roots: Reconciliation (Genesis 45:1-11)

**Family Roots: Forgiveness**  
***Discussion Starter Questions***

*March 21, 2021*

1. At some point most of us become aware of our need for forgiveness and our need to forgive. Which came first for you and what was the circumstance?
2. What does forgiveness include?
3. What are some of the offenses that Joseph endured from his brothers?
4. Joseph didn't ignore, deny or excuse what his brothers did. He acknowledged the harsh realities of what happened. Why is this so important in the process of forgiveness?
5. When we need forgiveness or need to forgive, it is tempting to get focused on self. Why is it important to focus on God in those times?
6. Feelings are simply what they are. We may not like them, but we can just magically make them go away. But what we do is something we can control. How does practicing grace and kindness improve the process of forgiveness?
7. Joseph was able to step back and see God at work in his painful experience. How did that impact the way he handled it, and how can it impact the way we handle similar painful experiences?
8. Speaking personally, what is so great about forgiveness?