



LEADER PAGE | SERIES | Best Sermon Ever | WEEK 6 of 11 | Sermon date: July 4, 2021

Discipleship Phrase: His heart, my hands.

Big Idea for Series: Jesus' heart for the kingdom is on full display.

Abiding (*grow as a disciple yourself*)

As you pray over what forgiveness is, and how you invite it in, take some time to think about what it isn't (more about this is in the leading section) and why living in what forgiveness is, is so important. Aaron talked to our team this week and said, "forgiveness can be dicey. It takes the trauma many of us experience and adds religious shame." Spend time this week to think through the truth behind those words and that sentiment. This is sacred territory and many things we carry are heavy and hard. Tread lightly, with purpose and compassion.

Leading (*facilitate your group effectively*)

This week's sermon has a few topics, but we will be focusing on forgiveness. This is often a difficult subject since many people have deep wounds that are hard to share and may be carried for a long time. Be mindful of the trauma that some may have and have compassion. When looking at forgiveness it might be helpful to review with your group what forgiveness is not.

Forgiveness is not:

- saying the wrong doesn't matter or it is trivial
- saying that what happened was okay
- saying that there aren't consequences
- saying you don't call the police
- saying that you don't leave the situation
- saying there aren't appropriate boundaries

Help guide your discussion that forgiveness is a choice to end the vengeance cycle and choosing to "absorb the debt." It is relinquishing your right to get even. How does it look to follow Jesus more closely in regard to forgiveness?

Shepherding (*know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep*)

Forgiveness is so weighty and the gravity of this week's discussion can really invite people into spaces far beyond their comfort zone, as well as, potentially resurface some deep wounds. Be emotionally aware of everything shared in your group this week and seek the Lord's guidance on how best to care for those in need surrounding the topic of forgiveness in the weeks to come.

Church Announcements (*be in the know & share with your group*)

Southeast U Class, "Faith & Sexuality," starts August 18th at 6:30 PM in the gym. Click [here](#) to register!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader."



LifeGroups

at Southeast

SERIES | Best Sermon Ever | **TOPIC: Prayer & Fasting** | **WEEK 6** of 11 | **Sermon date:** 7/4/21

Welcome/Introductions (*creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone*)

Open in Prayer (*kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord*)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (*choose one that is best for your group this week*)

Weekly Vision Checklist (*See Flipbook re: announcements, the “why”, goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching*)

Ask a Hook Question (*a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction*)
What’s the hardest thing you’ve ever had to do physically?

Recap the Message (*ask a couple people to share what stood out to them in this week’s message*)

Scriptures References (*Read scriptures **directly from the Bible**—it carries its own authority*)

Matthew 6:5-18 (ESV)

Implications (*takeaways from the message*)

1. When we engage in Takhun Olam (the repairing of the world), forgiveness is central, changing us on the inside.
2. Through the process of personal suffering, we learn to follow Jesus more closely, more intimately, more authentically, and more powerfully.
3. The way of Jesus is a way rooted deep in our being. It is not on the surface. It is not an act.
4. Jesus is looking for partners: true participants in bringing the Kingdom to earth.

Discussion Questions (*going beyond the surface*)

1. Read Mt. 6:12, what was Jesus getting at here?
2. Unforgiveness breeds bitterness and cynicism, how can you avoid allowing that to take root in your heart?
3. Who’s the one person that comes to mind that you know you need to forgive but who you also know will be the hardest person to forgive and why?
4. How might it look for you to forgive that person and to begin suffering well?

Prayer Requests (*record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.*)

Closing Prayer (*ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly*)

