

As We Forgive Those
Advent Series - Small Group Guide
Episode IV

Introduction

This final episode is more an “experiential exercise” than a teaching – you will actually be praying together with and for each other as Father Geraci leads you through this powerful experience. Feel free to pause the video at times if needed to take advantage of the prayer, and to allow whatever time is needed for the group to fully experience all that God is desiring for you.

Short Summary of the Episode

Father Ken begins by setting the expectation for this session – you really need to be in a place where you can focus and give your full attention to the exercise. You also need to be willing to be vulnerable with the Lord and allow Him access to your heart. This kind of disposition will be critical for the fruitfulness of this session.

This forgiveness exercise will lead all of us to dive deep into the “choice” of forgiveness. Who is it that you need to forgive? What have they done to you that you need to let go? We will be following the example of Jesus as he says from the cross, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”

Key Scripture verse

Luke 23:34: “And Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.’”

-Watch fourth video-

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. How am I feeling after that prayer?
2. What release did I sense as we prayed together? What weight was lifted for me?
3. How is God wanting/inviting me to practice this kind of forgiveness in an ongoing way?
4. What help and support do I need from others to respond to that invitation?

As this final session concludes, Chris has a wrap up message for us. The whole of the Christian life is not really that complicated, not “easy”, but it’s not complicated. And practicing forgiveness as a regular thing is simply part of that life. It’s a life God calls us to because He wants us to live with total freedom! “Not with a little resentment in your heart, not with a little unforgiveness – zero . . . Jesus, help us to live that life to the fullest.”