

# Set Free

## Free To Forgive (Week 1)

### LifeNotes

## TALK IT OVER

### Main Idea

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.....to forgive others.

### Key Scriptures

*Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.*

*"At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.*

*"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.*

*"His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'*

*"But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.*

*"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.*

*"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."*

Matthew 18:21-35

*It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1*

*"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:12-13*

### Start talking.

- Have you ever visited a prison? What was it like?
- What foods and tv shows are you addicted to?

### Start thinking.

- Why can it be so hard to forgive others?
- Read Colossians 3:12-13. What are some keys that we can grab onto in these verses as it relates to forgiveness?
- Pastor Joel mentioned that forgiveness does 5 things. Which one do you connect with the most?
  - Forgiveness releases us from the cell of anger, bitterness, and resentment.
  - Forgiveness is the doorway we must step through to find the healing we need.
  - Forgiveness spares us from the personal consequences of an unforgiving heart.
  - Forgiveness places us in faithful obedience to the command of Christ.
  - Forgiveness sets an example of life lived in the Kingdom of Heaven.

### Start sharing.

- Why is forgiveness one of Jesus's most discussed topics?
- How does our culture do a good job of promoting forgiveness? How does our culture encourage us to live as victims?

### Start doing.

- Is there an area of your life where you are living in bitterness and unforgiveness? Who do you need to forgive?
- Why is forgiveness so important?