



LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand the goodness of God's forgiveness is freely offered to them.

MAIN POINT

Forgiveness sets us free.

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:8-10

THINK ABOUT THIS

Faith, Forgiveness, and dealing with Temptation are 3 essential and foundational building blocks to the Christian faith. This series teaching focus is FORGIVENESS: How can we embrace God's forgiveness of us and forgive others? Today we are starting by looking at how God forgives us and then we will move into how God calls us to forgive others. It's easier said than done, but an important part of living our lives for Jesus.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

GET THEM TALKING

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message in your own words.
- Why might people sometimes feel like they aren't good enough for God or need to pull away from Him?

INTO THE WORD

READ ROMANS 3:23 and answer the following questions:

1. In your own words, what is this verse saying?
2. Why could that be considered "bad news" for us?
3. Have you ever felt not good enough for God?

READ ROMANS 5:8 and 6:8-10 and answer the following questions:

4. In your own words, what are these verses saying?
5. Why could that be considered "the BEST NEWS EVER" for us?
6. How can accepting God's forgiveness be freeing for us?
7. In what ways has accepting God's forgiveness been freeing in your life?

NEXT STEP

- 1) What do you need to ask God His forgiveness for?
- 2) What can you do this week to thank God for His wonderful forgiveness?

PRAYER GUIDE

We are going to close in prayer.
Anyone have any prayer requests?

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Scripture is provided for convenience, but we prefer you and your students open your Bibles to read the Scripture. This helps your students learn how to find Scripture in their Bibles and where these verses are in the larger context of God's Word.

ROMANS 3:23 (NIV)

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

ROMANS 5:8 (NIV)

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8 NIV)

ROMANS 6:8-10 (NIV)

⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. (Romans 6:8-10 NIV)

LEADER CORNER + NOTES