

Sermon Discussion Guide 11/4-11/10 VGroup Meetings

Sermon Title: Always Forgiving - 1 John 1:9

Distribute name tags as people enter. Take attendance / collect new guest information including address, phone & email, etc. Allow folks to mingle, fellowship, and settle in with each other.

Creating Comfort Tip: Think about those who are missing meetings. Reach out to them & encourage them to re-engage in the group. Is something going on with them - something the group can do to care for them. Remind them they are missed, thought about, & prayed for.

Open the session with prayer.

Discussion Starter/Ice Breaker: (15-20 mins)

Review: This week, start with a quick review of the last few sermons. How has God spoken to or revealed Himself as Always Faithful recently? Treat this as a Praise time where members can encourage each other by testifying to God faithfully moving in their lives.

Discussion Questions: (30-45 mins)

1. Read 1 John 1:9 together. Recap from the sermon: What are the 3 elements of the Forgiveness process that were outlined in the sermon?
2. Read the following verses. What do we learn about God through these passages?
 - a. Nehemiah 9:17 ("They" in this verse refers to the children of Israel).
 - b. Psalm 130
3. Of the 3 elements of Forgiveness, which one requires action from us? According to the following verses, why is this important? If we're already forgiven, why confess? What is the benefit to us?
 - a. Psalm 32:1-5
 - b. Proverbs 28:13
4. Jesus is the substitute. Why do we need a substitute? Isn't it possible for man to live according to the perfect Law set forth by God? Explore these verses & discuss the evidence provided.
 - a. Romans 5:6-9
 - b. Romans 8:1-4
 - c. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15
5. Jesus is the cleansing agent. Erik mentioned John 13:8 where Jesus tells Peter, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." Christ's blood washes us clean in God's eyes. Read these verses - How is Christ/God described (look at character & action) - How should we respond?
 - a. Ephesians 1:7
 - b. Hebrews 9:11-15, 22
 - c. 1 Peter 2:21-25
 - d. 1 John 1:5-7
6. God is Always Faithful to forgive. Does this never-ending grace give us the right to boldly live a sinful life? Read Romans 6:1-23 & then read James 5:16-20. To borrow a phrase from Tommy Nelson, as believers we are not sinless; we just sin less. Discuss the areas of life where sin creeps in - the weaknesses where satan attacks - & pray together for strength to move away from sin.

Closing: Open the floor for discussion / questions.

Prayer Requests:

Close in prayer.

