



WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

MARCH 6, 2021

"Humans are made for relationship and one of the most tragic things is when those relationships breakdown. The reasons can be complex. Forgiveness is essential for relationships to be set back on track but of course that doesn't mean it's easy. The Bible guides and enables us with the tools and wisdom we need in this sometimes very difficult and fraught area."

– Kara Hartley

We're glad to have you with us to enjoy breakfast together this morning - thank you for coming!

We appreciate Kara Hartley's work in preparing these talks from the Bible. As we hear her speak and reflect on our lives, may it be an opportunity to learn from one another of what the power and work of forgiveness looks like in everyday life.

Enjoy your morning.

Warmest regards,

Margaret Icke and the Women's Ministry Steering Team

BIBLE READING

Matthew 18: 21-35

²¹Then 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?”

²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ 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.

²⁶ “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ “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.

²⁹ “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

³⁰ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

TALK 1: FORGIVING AND FORGIVEN

Fractures

What is forgiveness?

1. Forgiven

God's Character

- Exodus 34:6-7

- Nehemiah 9:17

- Daniel 9:9

2. Costly Forgiveness

- Leviticus 16:15f

3. Complete Forgiveness

- **Jeremiah 31:34**
- **Ps 85:2**
- **Psalms 103:12**
- **Isaiah 43:25**

4. Conclusion for Forgiveness

- **Jeremiah 15:19**
- **Hosea 14:1-2**
- **Ezekiel 36:24-28**

5. Forgiveness in the New Testament

Colossians 1:19-22

*¹⁹For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,
²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making
peace through his blood, shed on the cross. ²¹ Once you
were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds
because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled
you by Christ's physical body through death to present you
holy in his sight, without blemish and free from
accusation—*

*(cf, Eph 1:7; Rom. 5:8; 1 Cor. 2:12; 2 Cor. 5:17-19; Heb.
9:11-15; 10:8-14.)*

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Name two things that struck you from the talk that have helped in your understanding of forgiveness, or something that has been a helpful reminder.

BIBLE READING

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

¹³Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

¹⁶Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

TALK 2: FORGIVING AND FORGIVEN

1. Willingness to forgive

2. Waiting for repentance

3. Wise Reconciliation

4. Seeking Justice

Fractures, Forgiving and Forgiven...

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

- *Love in the Hard Places* by Don Carson
- *Relationships: A mess worth making* by Paul Tripp and Timothy Lane
- *Growing Yourself Up* by Jenny Brown
- *Untangling Emotions* by Alaisdar Groves

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What's this life all about? Where can I find happiness, peace and purpose? Where does God fit into all this? We all face questions like this at some point in our lives.

At Menai Anglican, we run "Christianity Explored" and "Life Explored" programs throughout the year look at what the Bible has to say about life, the world, and the God who created us. It's especially designed for those who might not feel familiar with Christianity or the Bible and want to know more.

Visit menaianglican.org/lifeexplored or contact the church office on 9541 0990 for more information.