

09-13-26 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Jesus’ message has been about God’s love and mercy for us, even as broken people. When we sin, God doesn’t give up on us. God, through Jesus, continually reaches out to us to restore our relationship, modeling how we should restore relationships with those who sin against us. The answer of seventy-seven times indicates forgiveness that is limitless and uncountable.”

Sue Lynn White



Matthew 18:21-35

Questions for Reflection —

- In what ways in your life have you experienced the grace, mercy, and loving forgiveness offered by God? How has that experience subsequently impacted and informed your ability and willingness to forgive others? What does it look like to live a life of forgiveness in a society and world beset by violence, oppression, and injustice? What will help you intentionally keep God's grace at the forefront of all your interactions with others?

- When/how in your life have you received forgiveness from another person? Do you find it easy or difficult to seek and accept forgiveness from others? Why is that? Are there things in your life for which you have struggled to forgive yourself? What does it mean to you to know that God offers forgiveness for those things? What will enable you to finally let go and show yourself the same grace and compassion God offers you?

- In what ways has forgiving another person been a freeing experience for you? Do you ever tend to limit the extent of and/or place conditions on the forgiveness you offer to others? By contrast, what does it mean to truly forgive someone from your heart? Is there someone whom you presently find difficult to forgive or is there a past hurt or resentment that you cannot release? What do you need in order to move further on the path of forgiveness for that person or situation?

Daily Household Prayer

God of grace, it is Your will and your glory to forgive. In the cross of Christ, You have set us free from the power of sin and death. In awe and gratitude, we worship You, and pray that by Your Holy Spirit You might always set us free to worship and to serve, to love and forgive, in the name of Christ. Amen.