



The Way

...To Be Forgiven - Part 2

Discussion Guide

Jesus called Himself “The Way.” He also claimed, “No one comes to the Father except through Me.” How did Jesus create this open door? How did He make a way for people to come to the Father? Forgiveness was - and is - a cornerstone of Jesus’ ministry. As soon as He went public with His ministry, He started forgiving people. In Week 2 of this series, we will study the meaning and importance of forgiveness, as well as the example that Christ lovingly provided for us.

Jump Start

Leader: This section is designed to get discussions started, examine God’s truth, and apply it to our week.

1. When was a time you had a hard time forgiving someone?
2. **Read [Romans 9:9-10 and Acts 10:43](#)**. What does it take to be forgiven? Why does Paul emphasize the belief in our hearts in addition to confessing with our mouth? How do you turn words into heart change?
3. **Read [Matthew 9:2-6 and Luke 4:31-32](#)**. Why was Jesus’ first action to forgive the paralyzed man rather than to heal him? What does it mean for Jesus to have the authority to forgive? How does God having the authority to forgive influence your future?
4. **Read [1 John 1:6-10 and 1 John 2:1](#)**. Why do we have to acknowledge our sin? What does John mean when he says, “walk in the light”? How can you walk more in the light?
5. **Read [Mark 11:25 and Luke 6:37](#)**. Why is it important for us to forgive? Who is someone you need to forgive, and what does that forgiveness look like?

Deeper

Leader: This section is designed for further use in your Life Group or for personal study. These can also be used as discussion points and ways to stay connected with your group throughout the week.

In order to FULLY appreciate the forgiveness, acceptance, and clean slate we have been given through Jesus, we must first understand our need for Jesus. The idea of propitiation feels intense, intimidating, and confusing. However, propitiation is the central point of why Jesus' ministry was necessary. The word propitiate simply means to appease or win over (especially in reference to a deity). In this week's DEEPER we will take a look at propitiation in both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

6. **Read [Genesis 3:20-24](#)** (this occurs shortly after the first sin and marks God making the first sacrifice on behalf of mankind). Why did God find it necessary to give clothes to Adam and Eve rather than allow them to remain naked? What do the clothes represent?

7. What things do we learn about sacrifice and God's character from these passages? How does the heart behind each sacrifice still apply to our lives today?
 - [Genesis 4:3-7](#)
 - [Genesis 22:9-14](#)
 - [Exodus 32:30-35](#)

8. **Read [John 19:28-30](#) and [Matthew 27:50-51](#)**. What is the significance of these details? What was Jesus saying is finished, and how does the curtain being torn support this? In what ways have you undervalued the cross?

9. **Read [1 John 2:1-2](#), [1 John 4:10](#) and [Romans 3:25](#)**. What do these verses teach us about who Jesus is and what the cross means? Why did God choose to make this trade of Jesus for us?