

The Life Challenge

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Love One Another

Title: Forgive One Another As

Key Text: Colossians 3:12-14

Speaker: Jeff Peters

Date: November 5th, 2023



WARM - UP

What are a few personal challenges you have been thinking about during this Fall's "One Another" series. What topic or theme do you think has been particularly meaningful for us as a church?

DISCUSSION

Read Colossians 3:12-14 and discuss the challenges that come with obeying Paul's instruction to bear with each other.

Paul connects "bearing with each other" to "forgive one another" knowing that humans tend to offend and harm each other. Share about your own experiences of being hurt.

Forgiveness is the cancellation of debt, not the acknowledgment that someone has paid their debt. Recall a time when someone cancelled your debt, whether that be actual "dollars" or some kind of relational currency.

DISCUSSION CONTD.

Sometimes we don't think God is very generous because we can't imagine ourselves being generous. Yet God's grace is always surprising and more bountiful than we can grasp. God loves the people we find difficult to love, and he forgives them. Share with each other people in your life that you struggle to forgive or to love.

The event of Jesus dying on the cross and being raised to life is the culmination and ultimate demonstration of who God really is and his steadfast love and grace and forgiveness that have always been available to humanity. Discuss your views on God's forgiveness.

APPLICATION

Am I withholding forgiveness from someone that hurt me? Am I using excuses like "I am not ready to trust" as my way of avoiding the issue? What will it take for me to stop carrying this burden and to cancel the debt from the hurts I have experienced?

Is South Abbotsford Church withholding forgiveness from each other? In what way? What will it take to cancel the debt from the past?