

Sermon Series Devotional Guide

Members of one another

a study of the "one anothers"

"Forgive one another"

Dr. Francis Schaffer wrote this in his classic book, "The Church at the end of the 20th century."

"In our own groups, in our own closed Christian communities, even in our families, when we have shown lack of love toward another, we as Christians do not just automatically go and say we are sorry. On even the simplest level, it is never very easy.

It may sound simplistic to start with saying we are sorry and asking forgiveness, but it is not. This is the way of renewed fellowship, whether it is between a husband and wife, a parent and child, within a Christian community, or between groups. When we have shown lack of love toward the other, we are called by God to go and say, "I'm sorry ... I really am sorry."

If I'm not willing to say, "I'm sorry" when I have wronged somebody else ... especially when I have not loved him (or her) I have not even started to think about the meaning of the Christian oneness which the world can see. The world has a right to question whether I am a Christian. And more than that, let me say it again, if I'm not willing to do this very simple thing, the world has a right to question whether Jesus was sent from God and whether Christianity is true."

Monday March 15

Read

❖ Ephesians 4:32

Study

1. Read the quote from Francis Schaffer in the introduction of this week's study. What do you think of what is being said? What does he say is the effect of saying sorry? What does he say is the effect of not saying, "I'm sorry?"

2. What does this text in Ephesians say is the motivation for forgiveness?

3. When forgiveness comes hard what would you suggest to a fellow believer?

Reflect

❖ Describe God's forgiveness for you in Christ.

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- ❖ How does God's forgiveness of you enable you to forgive another?

Pray

- ❖ Take time to pray to God with thanksgiving, confession and adoration.

For our church:

- ❖ Pray for our worship leaders, Ross, Steve, Pastor Darryl and Janet. Pray that they will have sensitive spirits - attentive to God's leading as they lead the team and us in worship.
 - ❖ Give thanks for all our musicians and singers. Pray that as we worship together God will be our focus and He will receive glory.
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