

## Where It All Leads

Number four in the series: *Make Peace Not War*

*Biblical tools for handling conflict*

January 23 & 24, 2010

- 1. To forgive is \_\_\_\_\_.**  
***But it can be \_\_\_\_\_!***
  
- 2. To forgive is to set someone \_\_\_\_\_.**  
***In fact, it sets \_\_\_\_\_ free!***
  
- 3. To forgive is to extend \_\_\_\_\_.**  
***Fortunately, God gives us enough to \_\_\_\_\_.***
  
- 4. To forgive is \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.**  
***It involves what we \_\_\_\_\_ as well as what we \_\_\_\_\_ do!***
  
- 5. To forgive is \_\_\_\_\_.**  
***It is part of what it means to follow Christ!***

## Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. React to this sentence: *How we deal with people problems displays our Christian character or lack of it.* What does this mean? Do you agree?
  
2. What happens when we attempt to handle conflict but fail to forgive?
  
3. Have you ever had the feeling that you wanted to get even with someone who hurt you? Were you able to do it? Did it make you feel better? Does offending those who have offended us solve anything?
  
4. The parable recorded in Matt. 18:21-35 is very powerful and unpleasant. We don't like reading that the one who does not forgive is handed over to the torturers at the end. How are our relationships with one another related to our relationship with God?
  
5. Read Matt. 5:7; 6:14,15; Mark 11:25 and James 2:13. How and why are God's forgiveness and our forgiveness connected?
  
6. Col. 3:13 and Eph. 4:32 both instruct us to forgive each other, just as we have been forgiven by God. To what extent has he forgiven us? Can we really forgive like he does? How?
  
7. What did you learn in this lesson about what forgiveness is not?
  
8. It is easy to conceive of forgiveness as just letting things go, but there is more to it than that. What will forgiveness require from you? What do you need to actually do? Take this personally. What do you need to do this week?

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- 1. To forgive is unnatural.**  
*But it can be supernatural!*
  
- 2. To forgive is to set someone free.**  
*In fact, it sets two people free!*
  
- 3. To forgive is to extend grace.**  
*Fortunately, God gives us enough  
to give away.*
  
- 4. To forgive is active, not passive.**  
*It involves what we do as well as  
what we don't do!*
  
- 5. To forgive is commanded.**  
*It is part of what it means to follow  
Christ!*