

FORGIVE US . . . AS WE FORGIVE

MATTHEW 6:12

THE LORDS PRAYER

2-17-08

WELCOME - ICE BREAKER:

***Important Note:** Not all questions have to be asked and not everyone has to answer every question asked.*

When is the last time you confessed a sin to someone else?

WORSHIP - OPENING PRAYER and PREPARATION

Read Psalm 95

Spend some time in prayer thanking, praising, and adoring God.

WORD

Read Psalm 51:1

1. On what truth does David base his plea for pardon?
2. What does this verse say to people who have sinned so grievously that they feel God can't forgive them?

Read Psalm 51:2-5

3. What phrase indicates David's openness about his sin?
4. How does such transparency train us to be authentic?
5. Why do you think David emphasizes that his sin was against God, even saying, "Against you, you only, have I sinned (v.4)?"

Read Psalm 51:6-15

6. What phrases describe the way forward into restoration?
7. What sorts of things does David pray for in his prayer of renewal (VV. 12-15)?

Read Psalm 51:16-19

8. What prevents us from having a broken and contrite heart?
9. What are the chief benefits of admitting our sins to God?
10. What negative character qualities might be slowly overcome as we practice the discipline of confessing to God?
11. How might confession build humility? Courage?

Going Deeper...

12. Having received forgiveness from God at our worst, what then should be our response in situations where others have wronged us? Is it difficult for you to come to a place of forgiveness? With God? Towards others?
13. How would difficulty in accepting God's forgiveness in your life effect how you relate to those who hurt you?
14. Do your hurt feelings sometimes blind you to the needs, desperation, and hurts of those who may be sinning against you? Give an example
15. Name 3 things you can do to move from resentment to forgiveness of someone who has wronged you?