



## Common Misconceptions About Forgiveness

Sunday, March 8/20 AVBC 10:30 am

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### MISCONCEPTION 1- \_\_\_\_\_

*Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath. (Eph. 4:26)*

*The LORD is slow to anger and great in power; the LORD will not leave the guilty unpunished. (Nahum 1:3a) (also Exodus 23:7)*

### MISCONCEPTION 2- \_\_\_\_\_

- Forgetting is \_\_\_\_\_ possible.
- Forgetting is not \_\_\_\_\_.
- Forgetting is a function of our \_\_\_\_\_.
- When God “\_\_\_\_\_” our \_\_\_\_\_ it means He chooses not to bring it up or hold it against us.

-Romans 4:4-8

### MISCONCEPTION 3- \_\_\_\_\_

Forgiveness depends upon \_\_\_\_\_.

Reconciliation depends upon \_\_\_\_\_.

-Psalm 133:1, Romans 12:18

### MISCONCEPTION 4- \_\_\_\_\_

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)*

- There is a difference between \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness and \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness.
- Repentance is essential for \_\_\_\_\_ but not for forgiveness.

### MISCONCEPTION 5- \_\_\_\_\_

- There is a difference between forgiveness and \_\_\_\_\_.
- There is a difference between my \_\_\_\_\_ and God's \_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 12:17-19)

*Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:32)*

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## DIGGING DEEPER

(For personal study, family devotions or Care group)

Q1: Think of a time that you had a misconception about a person or event. What led to the misconception? How was it resolved?

Q2: Of the five misconceptions mentioned, which one surprised you the most? Which one do you struggle with the most?

Q3: Read Phil. 2:1-4. What principle(s) can you discover? How do they relate to your life?

Q4: You can forgive without forgetting. What are some negative consequences of remembering a past offense? What may be some positive effects of remembering?

Q5: What do you think of the following quote?

*“We can forgive a person who never says he is sorry. We cannot be truly reunited unless he is honestly sorry. We can forgive even if we do not trust the other person. Reunion can happen only if we trust the person who wronged us once not to wrong us again. Forgiving has no strings attached. Reunion has several strings attached.” (Lewis Smedes, The Art of Forgiving)*

Q6: List three or four examples when Christ's forgiveness was on display? What can you learn about forgiveness from His example?

Q7: Read II Corinthians 1:3-4. How can the Lord redeem our pain?

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## 40 DAY ALL-CHURCH FAST – Days 8 to 14

Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

Well done! You have completed 7 days of your 40 day fast! The Lord is pleased and His “and then some” grace will continue to arrive at just the right time. As you enter week 2 of your fast take some time to explore Elijah's experience with the Lord. Read and reflect upon I Kings 18:16-46 and I Kings 19.