



Small Group Work Sheet

John 18:1-19:16 - Life Feels Out of Control!

August 11, 2013

One of the key narratives of this passage is Peter's denial of Jesus. In addition to fulfilling Scripture (Isa. 53:6) and Jesus' words from hours before (Jn. 13:38), Peter's lowest moment gives us hope in the midst of our own. It proclaims the promise of God's matchless forgiveness and unparalleled patience with fallen humanity.

Part 1: Ice Breaker

1. Do you have a hard time with forgiveness? Is it hard for you to forgive others? Is it hard for you to forgive yourself?

Part 2: **God** forgiving **you**.

2. Read Exod. 34:5-7; Ps. 103:8-13. A.W. Tozer once wrote, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." Do you think of God as a forgiving God? To what extent? How do these passages help remind us of who God is?

Part 3: **You** forgiving **you**.

3. Read John 13:36-38; 18:15-18, 25-27; Lk. 22:62. Have you ever experienced guilt similar to Peter? How did you overcome this guilt? How did Peter overcome his guilt?

4. We have a tendency to recognize in our heads the truth that God forgives us in Jesus, but that often does not translate to our hearts. Do you feel forgiven by God for your past sins? Why or why not? What are some reasons we have such a hard time forgiving ourselves when God offers us such gracious forgiveness?

Part 4: **You** forgiving **others**.

5. Read Matt. 18:21-35; Col. 3:12-13. Why is forgiving others a necessary part of the Christian life? Are there people who you need to forgive?