

**Hope Chapel Series: “Relational Revival” part 4**

**Message Summary:** Forgiveness is a tough issue. BUT...If our love to develop a healthy relationship means anything, then our forgiveness must be as well. Often, we see forgiveness as a choice we make when someone wounds us. People may see forgiveness only as something to use when necessary. But, Jesus sees forgiveness as something to use continually as a constant foundational quality of all relationships. Forgiveness is a deliberate act of love, mercy, and grace. Forgiveness is a decision to not hold something against another person, despite what he or she has done to you.

## **Relational Revival with Forgiveness**

- 1. Relational environment builds forgiveness into all relationships**  
Matthew 18:21-22
  - A. Relational love means people do not have to earn our forgiveness**
  - B. Relational love understands that forgiveness represents God**
  
- 2. Relational environment expects faults in others before they happen**  
Colossians 3:13
  - A. Anticipate the need for forgiveness in relationships**
  - B. Assume positive intent first when you feel offended**
  
- 3. Relational environment forgives in order to love God and others**  
1 John 4:20
  - A. Forgiveness impacts my relationship with God**
  - B. Forgiveness impacts our ability to love others**
  
- 4. Relational environment forgives in order to show the world Jesus**  
John 13:35
  - A. Our relationships are the proof**
  - B. Our relationships are priority**

## **LifeGroup QUESTIONS:**

BEGIN IT – (5 min) Time in praise & opening prayer.

OPEN IT- (10 min) Describe a time being on the receiving of forgiveness. How did that make you feel?

EXPLORE IT- (60 min) Take time to review Sunday's message outline and share notes taken by the group.

1. What does it mean to build forgiveness into all our relationships?
2. How does forgiveness represent God's heart?
3. What does it mean to expect faults in others?
4. How do we live with others assuming positive intent?
5. How does forgiveness effect my relationship with God and others?
6. How does forgiveness show the world Jesus?

APPLY IT- (15 min) In what ways do you need to grow by loving others with forgiveness?