

Unexpected: The Gospel of the Servant King Jesus' Example of Love and Forgiveness

Brad McConnaughey // March 1, 2020
Mark 14:41-52 (Pages 827, 1008, or 1020)

*“Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.” **1 Peter 2:21-23***

Big Idea: Love your enemies and forgive those who have wronged, betrayed, or abandoned you.

1. Like Jesus, _____ your _____.

*“But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” **Luke 6:35-36***

2. Like Jesus, _____ those who have wronged, betrayed, or abandoned you.

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”

Colossians 3:12-13

*When it comes to forgiveness, IT’S _____ YOUR TURN!

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.”

Matthew 5:24-25

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.”

Matthew 18:15

Read the Bible this year

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here’s some help getting started. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer, read just from one testament. Enjoy!

1. **Numbers 12-14; Mark 5**
2. **Numbers 15-16; Mark 6**
3. **Numbers 17-19**
4. **Numbers 20-22**
5. **Numbers 23-25; Mark 7**
6. **Numbers 26-28; Mark 8**
7. **Numbers 29-31; Mark 9**

Life Group Questions

1. Read **John 13:2-5**. Jesus washed the feet of all his disciples – *including Judas*. Why do you suppose Jesus even washed Judas' feet, all the while knowing he would betray Him?

2. Read **Mark 14:1-2** and **43**. Describe the contrast in attitude and action of the chief priests and scribes toward Jesus.

Now read **Mark 14:34** and **48-49**. Describe the contrast in Jesus' attitude.

Read **Mark 14:31** and **14:50**. Just a few hours pass between these verses. What changed for Peter and the disciples in that brief time?

3. Put yourself in the moment when Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss. How would you describe the emotion of that moment as Jesus and Judas stood there looking each other in the eyes?

Describe a time when you felt betrayed by someone close to you. What emotions did you experience?

4. Read **Colossians 3:12-13**. How do these verses affect you as you think of someone who has hurt or betrayed you?

What does it mean to forgive another person? Is there a difference between forgiveness and reconciliation?

Why do we have difficulty forgiving those who hurt us? Is forgiveness that important?

5. Jesus forgave those who deserted Him and would have forgiven Judas, had he come to Him. How will **Zechariah 4:6**, **Philippians 4:13**, and Pastor Brad's message help you forgive someone who has hurt you in some way?