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The Adventure of Forgiveness
Matthew 13:44-45

How would you describe the camping trip of your life?

- ☐ Fairly smooth
- ☐ Unpredictable
- ☐ A struggle
- ☐ Lots of fun and interesting moments
- ☐ Making the best of bad conditions
- ☐ Pretty challenging
- ☐ An adventure

What is forgiveness?

What is the “good news” Jesus shares?

Why is it so hard to accept forgiveness?

Matthew 13:44-45 *The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.*

From Mary's Red Notebook (On Forgiveness) – Found April 24, 2007

- *Forgiveness means letting go of the past.*
- *Forgiving is not forgetting. It is letting go of the hurt.*
- *It takes a strong person to say sorry, and an even stronger person to forgive.*
- *People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.*
- *To forgive is the highest, most beautiful form of love. In return, you will receive untold peace and happiness.*
- *The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.*
- *The stupid neither forgive nor forget; the naive forgive and forget; the wise forgive but do not forget.*
- *When a deep injury is done us, we never recover until we forgive.*
- *Forgiveness is the oil of relationships.*
- *Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future.*

Are you in a prison now?

From what do you need to be set free?

Main Point: The key may be to _____

Field Notes: Reflections From Outside



1. Describe a time you experienced a prison of regret, jealousy, worthlessness, anger, hate, or pain. How did you try to fix it on your own? What happened?
2. Have you ever seen God transform someone by being forgiven?
3. Do you have a more difficult time forgiving people or accepting forgiveness? Why?
4. Where do you currently need God's help to be set free? Can you open yourself to what God desires to do?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email krisbeckert@thevineva.org or call 215.237.4959 to set up an appointment.