



**Dig Deeper @Home – “True Forgiveness”
Complement to lesson on 05/03/2020 – “Requires Risk”**

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What is your risk tolerance? What conditions allow you to take more risks?
2. Share a time when you took a risk. How did it turn out?

MEMORIZE – Philemon v4-6

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.

READ Philemon

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What are your initial thoughts when you read Philemon v17-25?
 - a. What sticks out to you? What did you like? What didn't you like?
2. What general text observations can you make? Anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
3. Paul uses the word “partner” to describe his and Philemon’s relationship.
 - a. What is the significance of this word?
 - b. How is the use of this word itself a reminder and call to action?
4. It could be said that to be a follower of Jesus is to sign up for a life of risk. The book of Philemon is full of risk. What is the risk for Onesimus? For Philemon? For Paul?
 - a. Read Luke 14: 25-33. How do these words connect with Paul’s letter to Philemon?
5. What is this passage revealing about God? About us as humans?
6. In light of these revealed truths, what changes might you need to make, and how do you feel you are being called to put this into action?

Experiential activity – RISKY (a risk-taking game)

To play you will need two dice and each player needs a piece of paper. It is a game best for groups of 3 or more. Perhaps you want to play it in your zoom group this week. Create a chart like this one on your paper. The five columns represent the 5 rounds of play. In each round, identify someone to roll the dice. All players stand while the dice roller is rolling. As the dice are rolled, add up the numbers and if you are standing, write it in your column. The only way to secure your score for the round is to sit. What’s the danger in staying standing you ask? Well, if the dice roller ever rolls a “1”, all players still standing have their score for that round dropped to zero. If the dice roller ever rolls snake eyes (two 1’s) then all players standing have their score for the current and all previous rounds dropped to zero. The player with the highest score at the end of 5 rounds wins. For added fun, play again requiring everyone to have to stand one turn longer each round. So, if you sat down in the first round after 3 rolls, you need to stay standing for at least 4 rolls the next round, etc.

R	I	S	K	Y

Questions after the game:

What was your risk tolerance?

How did you feel sitting vs standing?

After you sat, what did you think as you continued to watch the dice being rolled and others standing?

How does this connect to Philemon?

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Majesty - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnGivhxS4v4>

To God be the Glory– Mennonite Hymnal 532

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

As God sent Jesus to be the light of the world, so now the Spirit of Jesus sends us out to the world around us. May God unlock the door of our fears that we might freely stand among the world’s people, sharing the touch Jesus, and that as we have been freely forgiven, we too would freely forgive.