

Dig Deeper @Home – “Walking the Broken Road of Forgiveness”
Complement to lesson on 5/4/2025 – “Receiving God’s Forgiveness”

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

1. What was your house like at age 7? What was your room like?
2. As a child were you afraid of the dark? What in your mind was in the dark that scared you?

MEMORIZE – Psalm 32: 1-5

Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, “I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.” And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.

READ – 1 John 1:5-10

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
 - c. What are the verses revealing about God? What are the verses saying about people?
 - d. In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. What does it mean to ‘walk in darkness’? (vs. 6) How can we ‘walk in the light’? (vs. 7)
3. What false claims do John’s opponents make? (vvs. 6,8)
4. When we sin, what can we do to “clean up”? What are the pitfalls of denying the sin within us?
5. According to John, what is God’s part and your part in the confessing and receiving of God’s forgiveness?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – Light vs. Darkness

Do this activity at night in your home. Find a room with limited windows. Place a number of items around the room on the floor, on furniture, out of the center of the room. Hide them well.

Give a list of the items to each member of your family or small group. The instructions are for each person to have a turn to go into the completely dark room and try to find the items. Give them a time limit to find the items.

When they have all had a chance to try to find the items, now give them a flashlight and try it again. See if that makes it easier to find each of the items in the dark room. (If they still can't find all the items on the list – then turn on the lights in the room!)

Discuss how much easier it was to find the items on the list when you had “light to see”. Talk about what it means to “walk in the light” of following Jesus versus trying to find our way in the dark by ourselves.

SING (or listen to)

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death - <https://youtu.be/Oibli1rz7mw>

Open the Eyes of My Heart - <https://youtu.be/x0orH2uloel>

Create in me, a Clean heart - <https://youtu.be/b7Hk3WFUMvo>

I Love You, Lord - <https://youtu.be/pBwZABcyWz8>

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, for this week.

Sending prayer based on the message:

Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit, thank you for your extravagant love and unfathomable forgiveness. So great is your love and forgiveness, that it seems foolish to us. Help me to receive this love and forgiveness and to love and forgive ALL others to the point where it too looks foolish.