

Week 7

Small Group Discussion Questions

Stuck on Purpose: Noose or Necklace

Getting to Know You:

These questions are designed to help you get to know other people and share a little bit about your life.

1. How does someone make a good first impression on you?
2. What is one thing you do to try to be a better friend to others?
3. What games or activities did you and your childhood friends play together, and how did these activities help solidify your friendships?

Digging Deeper:

These questions are designed to help you dig deeper into the sermon topic, relevant scriptures, and provide deeper opportunities for reflection.

1. What stood out to you most from the sermon, and why?
2. Read Ephesians 4:31-32 and Proverbs 17:9.
How do these verses describe the benefits of forgiveness?

In what ways does holding onto unforgiveness harm you more than the person who wronged you? What are some barriers that make it difficult to forgive, even when we know it benefits us?

3. Read Matthew 6:14-15. Forgiveness is clearly important to God. Why do you think Jesus emphasized forgiving others as a key part of our relationship with God?

4. It can be difficult and frustrating to forgive people who have a pattern of hurting you. They've asked for forgiveness multiple times for the same offense, and this time they promise not to do it again, but they end up doing it again. Here's the two-part question:
 - Read Matthew 18:21-22. How do you continue to forgive someone who continues to disappoint you?

 - Read Romans 3:23. What does this verse and example situation reveal about your relationship with Jesus?

5. Read Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, and John 3:16. These simple verses tell the gospel story: we have sinned, God forgives us, and sent His Son to restore our broken relationship with Him. With this in mind, please answer the following questions:

- Can you remember the moment when God's forgiveness of your sins became real to you in a deep and personal way? What thoughts and emotions were you experiencing at that time?

- How often do you confess your sins to God and ask for forgiveness? Are you more structured in this time, or is it more spontaneous?

- How can you share the simple and powerful truth of God's great love and forgiveness with others who do not know Him?

Application Questions:

The goal is life transformation, not simple discussion. This is how we live out this week's teaching.

What are some ways to set healthy boundaries without harboring bitterness?

How can we forgive fully while still protecting our emotional, mental, or physical well-being?

Is there someone in your life that you need to forgive but have not yet done so? What can you do this week to begin the process of forgiving that person?

Prayer Request:

Take time to share prayer requests and to pray for one another.