

Forgiveness

This unit deals with our forgiveness of others, and is of vital importance to all Christians. Bitterness is the Enemy's tool to destroy many - fellowships and individuals, alike. It is important that we are all aware of what the bible says about forgiveness, especially in the following areas:

- why we are to forgive
- how to forgive
- how to recognize a root of bitterness in yourself and others

This unit consists of two separate studies: "Hurt and Bitterness" by Winkie Pratney, and a textual study of the "Parable of the Unmerciful Servant" found in Matthew 18. The former is an interactive lesson, while the latter is much more discussion oriented.

Timeline:

Unit 1 - Hurt and Bitterness

One week before - email them a copy of "Hurt and Bitterness" by Pratney to read, and you read it yourself.

Three days before - read the Parable of the Unmerciful Servant in Matthew 18.

Two days before - familiarize yourself with the scriptures in the reference list.

One day before - look over the Hurt and Bitterness Discussion Notes and go through the forgiveness checklist yourself.

On the day of the meeting - go over the discussion notes again, prepare copies of the Hurt and Bitterness handout for small group members, get other materials ready (paper, pens, etc.).

OR

Unit 2 - The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant - Matthew 18

One week before - ask small group members to read this passage before the next meeting, and read it several times yourself.

Two days before - read Matthew Henry's commentary on the parable.

One day before - look over the Unmerciful Servant Discussion Notes, familiarizing yourself with the questions and scriptures.

On the day of the meeting - go over the discussion notes again, prepare copies of the Unmerciful Servant handout for small group members.