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**BiG iDEa:** Jesus invites me to seek and to freely give forgiveness.

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*Growing Deeper* this week...

Jesus' power in public was directly related to his time spent in private with *Our Father*. Set aside some time throughout this week to read and reflect on what God's word says on the subject from the Bible passages below. Some questions are provided for you or a small group of friends to provide focus for your reflection. Before your start: Breathe, pray, ask the Holy Spirit for help.

### Identify

Who is the first person that comes to mind if you were asked about the greatest hurt in your life? How do you feel about that person today?

### Read

*Scriptures to grow by...* Isaiah 44:21-23, 1 Corinthians 13:4-6, Matthew 6:12, 18:21-35, Colossians 3:13, Ephesians 4:31-32, Luke 6:37, 17:3-4, Psalm 130.

### Reflect

1. What words, phrases or ideas stand out to you from the Bible readings you read today? Do you believe there is a sin that you could never forgive? Explain.
2. How do these words, phrases or ideas connect with your everyday life? What do they lead you to think or to do?
3. On Sunday, Doug said that the "mode of operation in kingdom forgiveness is excessive compassion where the 'forgiven, forgive' no matter how many times others *hurt* us." How do you respond to this statement? What might Jesus want to say to you about this? What might you want to say to Him?

### Respond

*Moving forward...*

On Sunday, Doug quoted Kent Crockett as saying that we should "base our forgiveness on what God has done *for* us, not on what another person has done to *us*." How does this help you move forward with God's help to make forgiveness a priority? Who might Jesus be prompting you to forgive today?

**Remember: Forgiveness in Christ doesn't just flow *to* you. Its truest power is experienced when it flows *through* you.**