



rGroup Guide

Humanize the Monster
Pastor Miles McPherson | February 16, 2020

D12 Monthly Focus for February: *Gracefully gives and receives forgiveness.*

Recite the Do Something Disciple Prayer

“As a Do Something Disciple, I am in a disciplined pursuit for the heart of The Father,
a heart that is being perfected in love for God and people.

Father give me a heart that:

- Desperately seeks face-to-face intimacy with You.
- Faithfully avoids that which displeases You.
- Humbly embraces a Kingdom Mindset.
- Values making disciples that make disciples.

Jesus, create in me a heart that:

- Values being guided by the Word of God.
- Gratefully grows in generosity.
- Nurtures a burden for lost people.
- Demonstrates a commitment to a Spirit-filled expression of my gifts.

Holy Spirit develop a heart in me that:

- Gracefully gives and receives forgiveness.
- Passionately worships God.
- Is dependent on the power of prayer.
- Serves with Humility.

"Father, with Christlikeness as my goal and the Holy Spirit as my Guide, knit my heart with Yours. Fill my heart with Your passions, motivations, and desires. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

Sermon Application from Sunday's Message:

On Sunday 2/16, Pastor Miles spoke about humanizing the monster. He challenged us to humanize our monster by **CONFESSING** our unforgiveness to God. We need to humanize our monster by **IDENTIFYING** a potential wound the offender has suffered. Finally, we need to bury both monsters by **EXTENDING** forgiveness to the offender.

Take time to read through the following materials in your rGroup and discuss the questions provided.

- What is forgiveness? (Hint- Restoring the ability of the image of God in us to respond to the image of God in someone who hurt us.)
- What forgiveness is not:
 - If I forgive, is what they did okay? No.
 - If I forgive, are there still consequences? Yes.
 - If I forgive, do I need to trust them? No, not until they earn it.
 - If I forgive, do I need to forget? Yes, you need to “forget” the idea of seeking revenge, but no, you need to not forget to protect your heart.
- Challenge
 - Read Matthew 6:14-15 - In your group actually write a letter of forgiveness for someone that you need to forgive. Follow the format below and ask a member of your group for help if you need it.

Dear _____,

I am writing to extend forgiveness to you.

Describe in detail what they did: _____
(On one or several occasions you gossiped, lied to, misled, violated me, etc....)

Describe how and when they did it: _____
(You did these things in public and online, etc.)

Describe in detail how it made you feel: _____
(Every time it made me feel, hurt, worthless, used, betrayed, ... I relive it almost daily when....)

Extend forgiveness: _____
(I am choosing to release to God my pain and present it to God.)

Pray a blessing over them: _____
(I pray a blessing over your life. I pray that God would love you past your pain and tendency to hurt people.)

Share your commitment to release your pain to God: _____
(I'm choosing to release the desire for revenge and leave it in God's hands.)

Next Steps:

- **Start a dGroup and grow in accountability to Christ and others. Text dGroups to 52525.**

Monthly Memory Verse: Mark 11:26 *“But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”*

This Week’s Bible Reading / Explore FREE Bible Videos

Numbers 13-33: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/numbers/>

Proverbs 7-8: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/proverbs/>