**Life Group Guide: TJNS WEEK 1**

**Series Overview:** In order to see the power of what Jesus said, sometimes, we need to look at what Jesus didn’t say.  Jesus said a lot of things, but Jesus also clearly didn’t say a lot of things. We’re looking at 4 things Jesus didn’t say and discovering the Truth about these commonly misunderstood topics.

**Week Overview:** Forgiveness is difficult, especially if people really messed up.  But, Jesus didn’t give us permission to not forgive other people. In fact, He said that we need to forgive everyone as He forgave us.  And, in doing this, we find freedom.

***Outline:*** **Tension (what’s the struggle):** You can’t pick and choose what you believe.

**Text: Matthew 6:9-13; Matthew 5:23-24; Col 3:13** **THP**: Forgive Freely

**Supporting Points:** Forgive Your Debtors as God has forgiven your debts; Hurl away the offense

Forgiveness isn’t optional…but your freedom is your choice.

You may not have started process of hurt, but you can start the process of healing.

Forgiveness empowers you to set the prisoner free, and the prisoner is you

**Application (call to action):** Gospel presentation (optional) Forgive others who you haven’t forgiven

**Ice Breaker:** What’s the dumbest thing you (or a friend) have gotten mad at someone else for?

* Imagine for a moment.  What would your life look like if you weren’t bitter from the pain of hurts and unforgiveness?  How would you live/think differently?
* What is the hardest part about forgiving other people?  Why?
* Andy Stanley said “ In the shadow of my hurt, forgiveness feels like a decision to reward my enemy. But in the shadow of the cross, forgiveness is merely a gift from one underserving soul to another.”  How can this help you give the gift of forgiveness, even when you don’t feel like someone else deserves it?
* If you feel comfortable, would you share some hurts that are in your life that might be making you bitter instead of making you better?
* You may not have started the process of hurt, but you can start the process of healing. How can you start your process of healing today?
* Take some time as a group to pray for strength to forgive (and possibly keep forgiving) some people in your students’ lives.
* How can we pray for you this week?

**PLEASE MENTION ANNOUNCEMENTS AFTER PRAYER!**

**SOS (Service Over Self)**: Encourage your students to register up for SOS!!