

Sunday Message: April 18, 2021

Meet Jesus | Freely Forgiven and Freed to Forgive, Luke 17:1-4

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## Reflection Questions

**1** Think about your posture toward other followers of Jesus. What are some preferences, traditional norms, or expectations that you have of them? Are they justified? Why or why not?

**2** At what point do these expectations hinder mutual conformity to the character of Christ?

**3** Think about your posture toward people who do not yet follow Jesus. Where might you mentally be holding them accountable to expectations Jesus never laid on them? Give an example.

**4** Where, how, or with whom could you become an “instrument of grace and forgiveness” rather than a “gavel of judgment” this week?

# DIGGING DEEPER

*The primary translation used on Sunday mornings is the ESV. The corresponding notes in the ESV Study Bible are helpful when reflecting on the questions below.*

For an excellent study resource consider buying Grant Osborne's user-friendly commentary on Luke: Grant Osborne, *Luke Verse by Verse* (Bellingham: Lexham Press, 2018).

## Text Exploration Questions

**Read Luke 17:1-4. Take notes or discuss using the questions below.**

- Who is Jesus addressing and what is the main topic?
- According to 17:1-4, what are the warnings given? List them.
- What is the purpose of comparing death by drowning to causing little ones to sin? What point is Jesus trying to make (17:2)? Which is more deadly and destructive?
- Danny states that, "the temptation of sin is not evidence of your depravity, but of your humanity." What does he mean by this? Talk about the origin and nature of sin. It might be helpful to revisit Genesis 3 and Romans 5.
- How is this passage an exhortation for self-reflection and relational evaluation?
- How does sin, forgiveness, and repentance relate to being a disciple and living in light of the Gospel? In other words how is forgiveness from God a paradigm for forgiving others? How are they the same or potentially different?
- Rehearse Danny's thoughts about forgiveness noted at the end of his message. Consider every statement:
  - Forgiveness is not rewinding, but finding a new and better reality.
  - Forgiveness is a personal action; reconciliation is a communal unification.
  - Forgiveness is a means by which we experience the Gospel in community with others.
  - Forgiveness is forging ahead in our journey with Christ.
  - Forgiveness is not letting sin have the last word, but rather the Savior.
  - Forgiveness is a reminder of whom God is where freedom resides.
  - Forgiveness is a willingness to forgive the other person for not being God.
- Which statement(s) on forgiveness resonates with you? Which statement(s) move you to action in ways that relate to your relationship with God and others?