

HOPE DEALERS

OUR HOPE IS IN HIS FORGIVENESS: PART ONE

May 15, 2016

1. Open in prayer with the Lord's Prayer.

- Then, read Psalm 32:1 and pray this gospel truth over your TC Group.

2. Pastor Derwin said, "Forgiveness has the power to heal the disease called vengeance. Vengeance is a furnace that burns and disfigures your soul." How have you seen this to be true in your own life?

a. According to Dr. Steven Standiford, Chief of Surgery at Cancer Treatment Centers of America, refusing to forgive makes people sick and keeps them that way. Unforgiveness is classified in medical books as a disease.¹

b. Dr. Standiford also said, "Harboring these negative emotions, this anger and hatred, creates a state of chronic anxiety."

c. What do you think about Dr. Standiford's words on unforgiveness?

3. Discuss Pastor Derwin's statement, "The reason we don't make a big deal about God's forgiveness is because we don't think our sin is a big deal." Read Luke 7:47 and Hebrews 9:22.

4. As followers of the Messiah, we live in the eternal Day of Atonement. Our sins are eternally forgiven, forgotten, and we are incorporated into the New Covenant. Read Hebrews 10:14-17.

- Take two minutes of silence and marinate on this truth. After the time of silence and reflection, discuss what you experienced.

5. We have this hope because Jesus the Messiah is the Lamb of God, Great High Priest, and the Mercy Seat. Read John 1:29, Hebrews 4:14-16, and Hebrews 10:10.

- How does knowing that Jesus is the Lamb of God, Great High Priest, and Mercy Seat affect you?

6. Close in prayer, thanking God for His forgiveness and for the people you must forgive.

¹ <http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/healthscience/2015/June/The-Deadly-Consequences-of-Unforgiveness>