The Hardest Thing You WILL Do

Colossians 3:13-14

By Richard Smith

9-08-24

NOTICE: The emphasis of our discussion is to see how the Written Word (Bible) and the Spoken Word (Preaching) work together to build up the believer, so when you see WORD in the questions, know it refers to the Scripture and the Sermon.

Recap: Look back for evidence of God's word reshaping your heart and life.

1. Does anyone have a testimony of how last week's WORD (living as a missionary in the regular patterns of your life) was put into practice?

Engage: Look into the Word of God in light of Sunday's preached sermon.

- 2. Read Colossians 3:13-14 and discuss the basis of Paul's call for the church to forgive.
- 3. Read Matthew 18:21-35 as a group and point out anything that stands out in light of Sunday's message.

Reflect: Look deeper at the preached and written Word.

- 4. Richard said, "The answer to forgive others is to be stunned by the cross of Jesus Christ." Look deeper at your own heart and it's willingness to embrace this statement in light of your current relationship/s that are full of tension. Discuss your reactions.
- 5. In the LORD's Prayer, Jesus taught us to pray, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." In what way is this a double request and what is Jesus showing us about the practical side of forgiveness?

Respond: Look ahead and around to see how you can be obedient and missional.

- 6. Richard showed us that God's forgiveness was sacrificial, undeserved, continual and complete. Reflect on each and discuss how these assurances help you love and move toward difficult relationships.
- 7. How are you being convicted/led to respond to the call to forgive as you have been forgiven? More importantly, who comes to mind?