

**ST LUKE'S, PECKHAM, LENT COURSE 2018  
WEEK 6 A WORLD OF FORGIVING**

Listen to what the heart hears:

*Here is my book of forgiving*

*The pages are well worn*

*Here are the places I struggles*

*Here are the places I passed through with ease*

*Here is my book of forgiving*

*Some of its pages are tear-stained and torn*

*Some are decorated with joy and laughter*

*Some of its pages are written with hope*

*Some are etched with despair*

*This is my book of forgiving*

*This book is full of stories and secrets*

*It tells how I finally broke free from being defined by my injury*

*And chose to become a creator again*

*Offering forgiveness*

*Accepting that I am forgiven*

*Creating a world of peace*

There are two simple truths:

First - There is nothing that cannot be forgiven

Second – There is no one undeserving of forgiveness

**Responsive Reading**

Come everyone who is fallen and fractured. Come everyone who is wandering and wondering. Come everyone who is lost and lonely.

**“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves.” We are the fallen and wandering and lonely ones. We have nowhere to turn but to God.**

Then hear the good news! God is a forgiving God. God's mighty throne is a mercy seat. In God's hands are justice and love, and those are the very hands that made you.

**“If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**

**God lifts up the fallen, God leads the wanderers home, God loves the lonely.**

Then come all of you bind your broken hearts together, bind your spirits with those fellow spirits around you, and come now to God.

Reflection on Scripture

Genesis 50.15-26

*If Joseph had not forgiven his brothers, consider how would the future of Israel be affected?*

Psalms 121

*Read this Psalm, and reflect on how the Lord can help you to forgive others and yourself*

Romans 12.14-21

*Read this passage. What does Forgiveness look like in this context? For the individual or for the community/world*

John 8.2-12

*What do you think Jesus may have written with his finger on the ground?*

- *The failings of those who accused the woman caught in adultery*
- *Or perhaps a reminder of God's forgiveness of those same accusers.*

*The passage ends with Jesus words "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." Compare the words with 1John 1.5-7 which we read last week. What does this mean in relation to forgiveness?*

The Following questions were asked of the congregation at the start of the Lent Course. I would like you to answer these questions again and see if your response has changed.

**Forgiveness – Questions asked on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – The Start of our Lent Course**

**Question 1**

***What needs to be put in place, or needs to happen to enable you to forgive someone or a group of people, whom you feel has wronged you or done a wrong in some way?***

**Question 2**

***What needs to be put in place, or needs to happen to enable forgiveness to happen from someone or a group of people, whom you have wronged or done a wrong to in some way?***

**NOTES**