

Review:

Lesson 1: The Body of Christ

Lesson 2: Being Family

Lesson 3: The Place of Scripture

Lesson 4: Together Even Better

Lesson 5: Better Giving

Lesson 6: Better Praying

Lesson 7: Serving Better

Lesson 8: On Mission

Lesson 9: Transformed Lives

Lesson 10: Attitude for Accountability

Lesson 11: Purpose of Accountability

Process of Accountability

Matthew 18:15-35

Scripture's approach to accountability is not about forcing behavioral changes but is about encouraging a _____ . It's designed goal is literally to love someone back into the fold, not to push them out.

Discussion 1. Have you ever been disciplined in a way that actually changed your heart, i.e., that actually changed how you saw your poor choice(s)? If so, describe how it worked with you. If not, describe what you think it would take for that to happen with you.

Jesus' vision for His church is that it would be filled with His spiritual authority and that hearts of even the most hardened people would be radically _____ and _____. How close to that vision is our vision for church?

Discussion 2. Do you think our community or our culture thinks of the church as a place where supernatural spiritual authority fills its people when they gather? If not, why do you suppose that is? Why don't people think of the church that way in our culture?

According to Jesus' vision for His church, the message of reconciliation (i.e., that God loves you and forgives you) will always be accompanied by the ministry of reconciliation (that I love you and forgive you). It must _____ .

Discussion 3. Do you think the Christian church generally has a reputation for being forgiving? Why or why not? What about you personally...do you believe people think of you as a forgiving person? Why or why not?

We should never underestimate the seriousness with which God views unforgiveness. Having already been forgiven for so much more, we have _____ for not forgiving others.

Discussion 4. How would you describe forgiveness to a 6-year-old? How do you know if you have truly forgiven someone? Which do you struggle to forgive: a stranger, an acquaintance or a close friend or family member? Why?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?