



# CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYES OF...

## RAHAB & BATHSHEBA

David McQueen // December 11, 2011

### MESSAGE RECAP

**The depths of God's forgiveness and our call to extend forgiveness to others are both wonderful AND offensive (Matt. 1:5; Heb. 11:31; Matt. 18:21-22, 33-35).** Jesus came that people might be forgiven regardless of how *unforgivable* they may be, like Rahab, Bathsheba, or like you and me. The forgiveness of God is so incredible and awe-inspiring that it is truly difficult to accept. Yet, grace is offered freely and is to be freely given to others. Unforgiveness impairs our fellowship with God and gives the enemy an open door to literally bring torture into our lives.

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### GETTING STARTED

1. Do you believe that every sin is forgivable regardless of how heinous it may be? Are there degrees of sin that God responds to differently?

### GOING DEEPER

1. In His message, Pastor David makes the point that *right* answers must become real answers. What did he mean by this statement, and how does it relate to the issue of forgiveness?
2. Why are grace and forgiveness often difficult for us to accept? Why are they difficult to extend to others?
3. What is forgiveness, and what is it not? How can unforgiveness affect us?

### MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. How difficult is it for you to receive the forgiveness of God? Do you feel unforgivable, and if so, why?
2. How challenging is it for you to extend forgiveness to others? Is there someone in particular that you are currently wrestling to forgive, and if so, why?

### MINISTRY TIME

Without question, the issue of forgiveness strikes at the heart of who we are. Some within your group are sincerely struggling to either receive forgiveness or to extend it to someone who has hurt them. **Take time as a group to pray for any attitude of unworthiness or spirit of offense to be broken and replaced with grace and forgiveness.** Speak life and freedom over those who willingly share about their struggle with forgiveness.

### TAKING ACTION

One of the key points Pastor David makes is that, in order to live a life of forgiveness, we must regularly *meditate* on what God has done for us in Jesus. **This week take time to find a quiet, secluded place to deeply think upon and weigh the vastness of God's grace and forgiveness.** In your alone time with the Lord, offer Him adoration and worship for giving what is so undeserved.

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## JUST FOR LEADERS

### VISION CASTING:

Encourage your Life Group this holiday season to **think transformation** not just inwardly in your group but also outwardly to a person or family in need. How can your group be an instrument of transformation by serving and blessing the life of someone outside your group? Would someone in your Life Group be willing to organize and facilitate a combined project of blessing?

### CRITICAL DATES & INFORMATION:

- NO DNA Infusion during the month of December (will resume in January)
- Please deliver **Christmas Unleashed** gifts to your adopted family by Sunday, December 18

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