



SUMMIT
— C H U R C H —
DIRECTION FOR THE JOURNEY



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

February 8, 2026 | Essentials (week 4)



GROWING CLOSER TOGETHER _____

1. Share about a specific time in your life where you needed to be guided, rescued, or saved. Or, at least felt like you needed to be.
2. Which is harder for you personally: admitting you need forgiveness, or admitting you need help from someone else? Why?



MESSAGE REFLECTION _____

1. Share something from the service or message that stood out, challenged or encouraged you.
2. Why do you think it's so hard for people and sometimes even Christians to admit the reality of **sin**?
3. Where have you seen the belief that people are basically good, and therefore going to heaven, show up in culture or in your own thinking?
4. What are the differences between **justice**, **mercy** and **grace**? Which of these is the *easiest* for you to grasp, and which is *hardest* to personally receive? Why?
5. How does **justification** challenge the idea that you have to earn or maintain God's approval?
6. What makes it hard for people to fully trust that they are forgiven and right with God?



GOING DEEPER

READ **Luke 7:36-50** together

1. What is something that jumps out at you from this passage?
2. Based on verse 47, what do you understand about the relationship between forgiveness and love?
3. Compare Simon with the woman in this story. Which person have you been more like in your life?
4. Why is forgiveness easier to accept for others than to receive personally for yourself?
5. What does it look like to live in peace with God after being forgiven? (*see verse 50*)
6. How does this passage teach you to guard against both pride and shame?
7. How does believing in forgiveness shape how might respond when you fail again?
8. How does this story help you understand what it means to say, "I believe in the forgiveness of sin"?



YOUR NEXT STEP

1. Spend time this week meditating on Romans 5:1. Read it slowly each day and reflect on what it means to have peace with God through Jesus.
2. Consider a relationship where forgiveness needs to be received or extended. Pray about one concrete step you could take toward peace, such as a conversation, message, or act of grace.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Take time to share burdens and pray for one another.