

Small Groups

DISCUSSION GUIDE

“LOVE WITHOUT LIMITS”

PASTOR BLACKBURN & PASTOR SELLERS – OCTOBER 11, 2026

AS THE DISCUSSION LEADER, THERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- Pray for your group discussion time!
- Choose a few questions from the guide that will generate the most discussion in your group.

GETTING TO KNOW ME (ICEBREAKER):

- Which is harder for you to forgive: a small offense or a deep personal hurt? Why?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **Jesus Teaches Us to Pray for Those Who Hurt Us.** Jesus tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Why do you think this teaching is so difficult to practice? Read Romans 12:17–21. How does Paul challenge our natural desire to get even with people who hurt us? Read Psalm 139:23–24. If you struggle to pray for someone who has hurt you, how might you begin by asking God to work in your own heart?
- **We Are to Forgive as We Have Been Forgiven.** According to Colossians 3:13, what is the standard for how we should forgive others? Why does remembering God’s forgiveness of us make a difference? The message uses the illustration, “Bitterness is like drinking poison and hoping the other person dies.” How can resentment harm the person carrying it, even when the person who caused the hurt seems unaffected?
- **Jesus Demonstrated Forgiveness on the Cross.** Read 1 Peter 2:21–23. How did Jesus respond when He suffered unjustly? What can we learn from His example? Have you ever witnessed someone respond to a painful situation with grace rather than retaliation? What impact did that response have on others? The message reminds us that Jesus has empowered believers through the Holy Spirit. Read Galatians 5:22–23. Which fruit of the Spirit can help us respond with forgiveness instead of anger or bitterness?
- **Forgiveness Does Not Mean Pretending the Hurt Never Happened.** The message acknowledges that forgiveness does not erase the consequences of wrongdoing. Why is it important to distinguish forgiveness from pretending that nothing happened? Read Proverbs 22:3. How can we maintain a forgiving heart while establishing healthy boundaries? Why might reconciliation require repentance, changed behavior, and time?
- **Forgiveness Can Become a Testimony of God’s Grace.** Joseph experienced deep betrayal by his brothers, yet later responded with mercy. What do his words in Genesis 50:20 teach us about God’s ability to bring good out of painful circumstances? Read 2 Corinthians 1:3–4. How can God use the comfort and healing we receive to help other people who have experienced similar pain? What might it look like for our small group or church to become a community where people can experience grace, healing, and restoration?

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:

- Trent & Renee Gabbard – ***Southern Asia***
- Craig & Liz Corbin – ***Chad***

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Wednesday, October 14** – Don’t forget: all Victory Life classes, support groups, Royal Rangers, Girls’ Ministries, and VSC (6:30 PM).
- **Sunday, October 18** – Join us for GrowTrack each Sunday morning in the GrowTrack Room at 10:45 AM. You will learn about the Vision and Mission of Victory Church.