**Real I.D., Pt-10: “Forgiven”**

**April-1/2, 2023**

**Speaker: Tom Hughes**

Below are study questions that will help you and your Life Group dig deeper into this weekend’s sermon. Feel free to only use those which best fit your group’s allotted time.

**Scripture Reflection:** Read **Luke 7:36-50 (NRSV).** Spend a few minutes reflecting on the passage, and then ask the group to share what stands out.

**Application Questions:**

1. Tom shared, *“Simon* (in Luke 7) *starts off by thinking there is one sinner in his house – the woman who was well known as a sinner – but Jesus shares a parable about two.”*
   1. Have you ever felt spiritually superior to others because their sin seemed more obvious than yours?
   2. After hearing Jesus’ parable about the two debtors, what conclusions do you think Simon reached? Did the parable help you recognize anything about yourself?
2. Tom said, *“Love is the product of forgiveness, not the reason for it. The reason is faith in Christ.”*
   1. Why do you think that faith in Christ enables people to extend forgiveness to others?
3. Tom shared, *“Forgiveness says, ‘Yes, you have done this thing, but I accept your apology.’ Excusing says, ‘I see that you couldn’t help it or didn’t mean it; you weren’t really to blame.”*
   1. Why do you think it’s important to understand the distinction between “forgiveness” and “excusing”?
   2. Have you ever asked anyone to “excuse” rather than “forgive” your sin? Has anyone ever asked you to “excuse” rather than “forgive” their sin? What was the outcome?
4. Tom shared*, “When God cancels a debt, the debt doesn’t just evaporate, He takes the cost of the debt onto Himself.”*
   1. How does the reality of God paying the penalty for your sins impact your relationship with Him? How does it help you in your relationship with others?

**Closing & Prayer**: [set aside sufficient time for prayer]

* Pray for the personal prayer request(s) of those in your group
* Pray for CA’s Easter services (people invited would attend, decisions for Christ, deeper commitment to Christ)
* Pray that God would continue to bless and grow our “in person” attendance in 2023