

# Pilgrim Heart— The Way of Jesus in Everyday Life



**October 21— Forgiving: The  
Love that Travels Farther**

# Introduction:



- **Pilgrim Heart—The Way of Jesus in Everyday Life**
- **Forgiveness one of the most difficult tasks of the Christian faith**
- **Deeper the hurt, deeper the need**
- **Fundamental meaning**

# Introduction:

- *“And forgive us our sins, as we also forgive those who have sinned against us.”*
- **Matthew 6:12**



# Introduction:

- **Forgiveness itself is a form of suffering—**  
**Miroslav Volf**

- **Why is this true?**



# Introduction:

- **Forgiveness is the scent of the flower that clings to the heel that crushed it.—**



# Acts 7:59-60

- **While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.”**



# Is Forgiveness Possible?



- **1 Peter 1:21**
- **Necessary! Jergen Moltmann—  
universal law of retaliation is annulled**
- **This is behind “turn the other cheek”**
- **Matthew 5:38ff**

# Four things that matter most

- Please forgive me
- I forgive you
- Thank you
- I love you
- [Pilgrim Heart, p. 116]





# Where Does Forgiveness

## Begin?



- A grace that begins with God
- Romans 5:8...It begins at the foot of the cross
- Begins knowing our own heart
- Begins knowing how badly we need it!
- Begins with a deep awareness of its healing
- Begins with an acknowledgement it does not approve of the wrong

# What does Forgiveness look like?

- Creatively...what would you paint or sculpt?
- What song would you compose, or poem would you write?
- Frederick Buechner's story
- Story of Joseph
- Genesis 50:15
- Genesis 50:19-21



# Verses on Forgiveness

- [Psalm 130:4](#)

But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

- [Matthew 26:28](#)

This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.



# Verses on Forgiveness



- [Acts 2:38](#)

**Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

- [Colossians 3:13](#)

**Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.**