

## It's the End of the World as We Know It...And I Feel Fine "Part Two – A World Changing Forgiveness"

### Series Summary

It's the end of the world as we know it. The world is changing all around us. There is an increase in corruption, hatred, racism, war, death, and disease. Is all hopeless or is there hope to be found? One birth, one life, one death marks a transformational change to our world. Find the Hope you are looking for as we discover more about where our confidence, strength, and security comes from. A four week series that leads to Easter Sunday: A World Changing Conviction, A World Changing Forgiveness, A World Changing Sacrifice, & A World Changing Victory.

### Big Idea

The Big Idea of this sermon is: ***FORGIVE***. Jesus Christ died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins so that we would learn about the power, nature, and application of true forgiveness for our own lives. We are to take a hold of this principle and apply it not only today, tomorrow, but for the rest of our lives.

### Forgiveness – Changing One Life at a Time

#### Our Reality – Life is a Vapor

- **James 4:14b** – What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.
- **Key Point** – Men and women throughout the world are experiencing feelings of emptiness, sadness, and unforgiveness on a daily basis. These feelings are keeping these people from experiencing the Love and Peace that God has intended for their life. Our Reality is that our life on this earth is a vapor and life is too short to live the rest of your days filled with Unforgiveness.

#### Our Example – Father Forgive Them!

- **Luke 23:33-34** – When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.
- **Key Point** – Jesus Christ was beaten, abused, mocked, spit upon, and then crucified. Jesus Christ experienced writhing pain and agony as the soldiers lay Him on the cross and pound the nails into His hands and feet. Yet, as He breathes the last breaths of His life during the last hours of His life He continues to shower the world with the example of His unconditional love. He looks out to those who are persecuting Him and He gives us the ultimate example of love and forgiveness when he says: Father, Forgive them for they know not what they do!

#### Our Promise – Freedom

- **Galatians 5:1** – It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

- **Key Point** – Christ gave us the example of forgiveness so that we could overcome the hatred that consumes the people of this world. He gave us more than an example of Forgiveness, He gave us a Promise of Forgiveness. The Promise was that Forgiveness would give us Freedom.

#### Questions to Consider

- *How has God forgiven you in your life?*
- *How does He forgiveness inspire you to forgive others? Explain.*

#### Memory Verse

**Colossians 3:13** – Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

#### BIG Challenge

God has placed at least one person on your heart that you need to Forgive. Set you heart, mind, and prayers on implementing this forgiveness THIS WEEK! *Give us your testimony about this.*

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