



Part 5: I Don't Get Mad...

## GET GOING

Conventional wisdom says don't get mad...get even. It's too bad for Christ followers that Jesus wasn't satisfied with conventional wisdom! So, what does it look like to offer forgiveness rather than seeking revenge? Let's find out.

## WATCH

Forgiveness: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9J6xOT3Ldw>

## DISCUSS

1. What impacted you most from that story?
2. Why do you think we naturally gravitate towards revenge rather than forgiveness?
3. Do you think we have a right to seek revenge when we are wronged? Why or why not?

### Read Genesis 42:1-8

4. Forgiveness is not amnesia, a feeling, or blind trust. What's the danger in treating forgiveness like any one of those characteristics?
5. Mark said, "Forgiveness lets you start over but it doesn't put you back to where you were." Do you agree or disagree? Explain why.

### Read Genesis 45:1-15

6. Forgiveness is refusing to seek revenge. How does Joseph model forgiveness in this situation? Why must we consciously choose to not take revenge?
7. To really forgive we need to choose to trust God. What does it look like to trust God with our anger and our hurt?
8. How have you seen God work out a negative situation for something good?

### Read 1 Peter 2:23

9. As a Christ follower, forgiveness is deciding to bless when cursed. How did Jesus model that for us?
10. Is there someone you need to offer forgiveness to? Is there someone you need to ask for forgiveness? How can we help you take that next step?

## PRAY.

Thank God for His gift of forgiveness. If you need to take God up on that offer talk to someone in your group tonight! Pray for the strength to forgive those who have wronged you and ask God for help trusting Him to take care of those situations.