Small Group Discussion Questions

PARABLE: A MERCIFUL GOD

As preached on Sunday, November 22nd

Read: Matthew 18:21-35

1. Our passage opens with Peter asking Jesus about forgiveness. What do you think about Peter's question? Is he being reasonable? Have you struggled at times to forgive again and again?

2. Jesus' answer is simply stated. Is he just supplying a different number or is he saying something more about the idea of forgiveness?

3. In vv.23-27 Jesus tells a parable. What are your first impressions of the story? What does it teach about the reason that we are called to forgive?

4. Why do you suppose the forgiven servant is so unwilling to forgive his fellow servant even when he has just been forgiven?

5. In vv.32-35 the original servant is punished harshly. Jesus adds, "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother sister from your heart." How does that make you feel?

6. How can you ensure that the mercy you have been given passes through you to others?

7. How can we ensure that our community of faith at FHPC is one that has both received and continuously offers the grace & mercy of God to the world?