

**The TAPESTRY of Christmas**  
**Weaving God's Forgiveness into your Life**

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## **Forgiveness: The BODY and BLOOD**

What is the significance of the little town of Bethlehem? During the time of Jesus' birth, the village had a population of 300 people. It was prophesied more than 800 years before Jesus' birth that the Messiah would come from this place. What does the meaning behind the name of this town teach us about God's forgiveness?

Forgiveness is the only thing that \_\_\_\_\_ our most  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Forgiveness is the overflow of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to everyone.

Forgiveness is granted when we are \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ of your faith.

## Discussion Questions

### Getting Started

1. Discuss this: Jesus was placed in a **STONE** manger at his birth and placed in a **STONE** tomb at his death. Jesus was wrapped in **CLOTH** as a baby and in death. Jesus came to save the **PURE** (virgin Mary) and **IMPURE** (7-demon Mary of Magdala). Jesus saved the **RICH** (Joseph of Arimathea) and the **POOR** (Joseph of Nazareth). The **SHEPHERDS** were given the sign of clothes in the manger and Peter saw clothes in the tomb and would become the **SHEPHERD** who is told to “feed my sheep.”

### Digging Deeper

2. Meditate on Micah 7:18-19. Worship God with praise and thanksgiving for the truth of these Bible verses. Spend time adoring Jesus for being so willing to forgive us of our sins.
3. Read Isaiah 1:18; 43:25-26. Does God need to settle the matter of sin in your life? Do you genuinely believe that God can take your horrible sin and cleanse you into righteousness?
4. Immerse yourself in these verses (Colossians 3:13; Matthew 6:14-15; Luke 17:3-4; Ephesians 4:31-32). Let these verses dictate how you interact with others. Are you known as someone who is quick to stand on truth and show grace?

### Applying the Word to Life

6. Memorize Ephesians 1:7. Spend time thinking about redemption, forgiveness, and the riches of God’s grace available to you. What practical ways can you give these wonderful gifts to someone else this week?
7. Forgiveness is not a bunch of steps to follow. It seems to be the opposite: it is the release of a burden that is hindering our emotional, spiritual and sometimes physical health. How can you lock eyes with Jesus to gain his strength to forgive?