

ChristChurch London Life Group Discussion Outline – 7/09/08
“Total Forgiveness” – Adrian Holloway

Read Genesis 50: 15-21

1. What struck you from Sunday’s sermon on “Total Forgiveness?” Was anything new, helpful or unhelpful?

2. Going through them one by one, why do you think Joseph chose each of the following phrases? What impact do you think he hoped each phrase would create?

a) “Don’t be afraid” (vs 19)

b) “Am I in the place of God?” (vs 19)

c) “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.” (vs 20)

d) “I will provide for you and your children” (vs 21)

e) And he re-assured them and spoke kindly to them (vs 21)

3. In verse 20, Joseph says that God used evil to achieve something good. Has anyone in the group got any personal experience of this? Or has God “used a thread of adversity to weave something good into the tapestry of your life”? What is your understanding of the “sovereignty of God” based upon this verse? (See also Romans 8:28)

4. If a Christian friend said to you: “I just can’t do it! I can’t totally forgive that person. They hurt me too badly.” What advice would you give? Why should they forgive? What motivation could you suggest? What would be the first/next steps?