

Forgiving Others

Forgiving others is not an easy thing to do, but it is a **must** if we want our faith to be productive and our prayers to be unhindered.

Jesus said in Mark 11:22-26, **Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.**

In Matthew 18:21-35, we read: **Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?**

Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took *him* by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye FROM YOUR HEARTS forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; Matt. 5:44

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love. Galatians 5:6

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with *them* according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. 1 Peter 3:7

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Ephesians 4:31,32

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Ephesians 5:1,2

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Colossians 3:13

The first step in forgiveness is acknowledging that you've got a problem against someone and then going to God about it.

The sooner we take the necessary steps to let go of bitterness, unforgiveness or any ill-feelings that we have against anyone, the sooner we are going to be in the will of God. It's not something one can do in our flesh or mind; it's something we do in our heart - *our spirit man*. We **choose** to forgive someone from our heart. If we want our sins to be forgiven, we have to forgive others.

When our mind reminds us of what others have done to us, we are to cast down those thoughts immediately. If we don't, the devil would be ruling our minds with evil thoughts and ill feelings. Just say, "*Satan, that's not my thought; I've forgiven them and I rebuke that thought in Jesus' Name, for it is written in 2 Corinthians 10:4,5, (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*" **Say that out loud.**

All thoughts of unforgiveness come from the enemy. Sometimes it seems as though the thoughts come "24-7". To help us, the Scriptures teach us what to do with our thought life in 2 Corinthians 10:4,5, as well as Philippians 4:7,8: **And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.**

Walking in the God-kind of love and practicing forgiveness - ***the genuine and true God-kind of forgiveness*** can be one of the most difficult things in our lives to practice and maintain. But this should be the area that we are the **best** in as believers. **Easy to do? No. Important to do and practice? Emphatically yes!**

Every step out of love into unforgiveness is a step into trouble. There's probably nothing that hinders our prayer life or hinders us from receiving by faith more than unforgiveness.

A Prayer to Forgive Others

Father God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus to make a personal commitment to walk in the God-kind of love. I've made the decision to love and forgive everyone who has spoken or come against me or my loved ones.

I refuse to hold any aught, ill feelings, unforgiveness, strife or discord in my life.¹ I want my heart always to be pure and perfect before You.² According to Your written Word, love never fails; perfect love casts out fear; fear has torment; faith works by love, and the greatest of these is love.³

The love of God is shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Ghost.⁴ Love is the first fruit of the spirit that is to grow and develop in my life.⁵ Above all, Jesus gave me a new commandment that I love everyone.⁶

So, Father, in obedience to Your Word, I make the decision to forgive _____. I choose to follow You by walking in Love, that my prayers will not be hindered.⁷ I forgive him/her/them, because You want me to, and also because You have forgiven me!

I refuse to hold a grudge against anyone, lest I be condemned!⁸ In Jesus' Name, I will resist and cast down every thought that Satan tries to bring to me about this matter.⁹ That offense, which I refuse to think or talk about anymore, is now under the blood of Jesus.¹⁰ The subject is closed!

God, I ask You to forgive _____. Lay not this sin to their charge.¹¹ Forgive them, for they know not what they've done.¹² Lord, I remind You that You've forgiven me of all my sins, wrongdoings, faults and shortcomings.¹³

Jesus forgave all those who persecuted and crucified Him, as well as those who personally attacked Him.¹⁴ Stephen forgave those who railed against him and stoned him.¹⁵

If Jesus could forgive when they were crucifying Him and Stephen could forgive when they were stoning him, I know and believe that I can forgive anyone who has come against me and my loved ones. This is because I can do all things through Christ, Who gives me the strength.¹⁶

Lord, I ask You to bless _____.¹⁵ I purpose in my heart to only do him/her/them good from this day forth: ____/____/_____.

Jesus said I can have what I say.¹⁶ Therefore, based on the written Word of God,¹⁷ my confession of faith is the following:

My Confession of Forgiveness

In the Name of Jesus, I'm not moved by what I see,¹⁸ by what others do to me or say about me, nor by how they treat me. I refuse to be a carnal Christian.¹⁹ I choose to be spiritually mature in the Lord and keep under my flesh.²⁰ If no one else in the body of Christ walks in the God-kind of love, that is none of my business! I know it's my responsibility as a believer to forgive and walk in the God-kind of love, no matter how others conduct themselves. I hold no grudges or resentments against anyone. I refuse to allow my flesh and carnal nature to dominate me. I refuse to be ruled by my emotions or feelings.

I walk in the Spirit.²¹ I walk by faith and not by sight,¹⁸ and I always walk in the God-kind of love.²² Because I do, I reap the benefits of long life, good health and divine protection.²³ Everything always works out for my good,²⁴ and whatever I do prospers.²⁵ I don't sit in the seat of the scornful.²⁶ On the contrary, I'm seated with Christ Jesus, ruling and reigning in this life with Him.²⁷ Satan has no place in my life²⁸ because I have no guile in me.²⁹ I love everyone the same with the God-kind of love. I never return railing for railing or evil for evil, and I'm always quick to forgive and slow to speak.³⁰ I'm not easily provoked, and I think evil of no one because I think on those things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous and praiseworthy.³¹

Since I operate my Christian life in the God-kind of love and have forgiven everyone of everything, I'm always blessed with the blessings of the Lord. I refrain my tongue from evil, and my lips speak no guile.³² Therefore, my faith is not hindered. By faith, I believe God has heard and answered my prayers.³³

As it is written, For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. 1 John 3:20 - 23

Thank You, Father God, for always helping me to forgive others and walk in love, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

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| ¹ Mark 11:25,26; | ⁷ Ephesians 5:1,2 & | ¹⁴ Philippians 4:13 |
| Jas. 3:14,16 | 1 Peter 3:7 | ¹⁵ Matthew 5:4-4 |
| ² 2 Timothy 2:22 | ⁸ James 5:9 | ¹⁶ Mark 11:23 |
| ³ 1 Corinthians 13:8; | ⁹ 2 Corinthians 10:3- 5 | ¹⁷ Matthew 4:4 |
| 1John 4:18; | | ¹⁸ 2 Corinthians 5:7 |
| Galatians 5:6; | ¹⁰ Revelation 1:5, 1 John | ¹⁹ 1 Corinthians 3:3 |
| 1 Corinthians 13:13 | 1:7 Colossians 1:14, Eph.1:74 | ²⁰ 1 Corinthians 9:27 |
| ⁴ Romans 5:5 | ¹¹ Acts 7:60 | ²¹ Galatians 5:16 |
| ⁵ Galatians 5:22; | ¹² Luke 23:34 | ²² Ephesians 5:2 |
| ⁶ John 13:34,35 | ¹³ Isaiah 43:25 | ²³ Deuteronomy 28:1-14; |

Scripture References:

JESSE RICH MINISTRIES