

Forgiveness Brings Freedom
Matthew 6:12, 14-15
Steven Dunne
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Matthew 6:9–15 ESV

Pray then like this:
“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Romans 8:1 ESV

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:35 ESV

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

Psalms 103:12 ESV

as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Mark 2:5 ESV

And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

James 2:10 ESV

For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

Ephesians 2:1–3 ESV

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

Ephesians 2:4–5 ESV

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

Luke 7:47 ESV

Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.”

Matthew 18:21 ESV

Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”

Matthew 18:22–35 ESV

Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

Discussion Questions:

- What was most meaningful to you about the Sunday gathering?
- How did your understanding for the gospel grow or how was your understanding encouraged?
- What was important to you from the message?
- What takeaways do you feel the Lord leading you into as a result of the worship/sermon?
- What is a significant time in your life when you have experienced forgiveness? How did this experience help you know God better?
- Do you find it hard to forgive at times? If so, why do you think this is?
- How is forgiving others connected to the forgiveness we have received from God? How does our willingness to forgive our debtors prove and encourage our faith?

- Look at Mark 2. Why did Jesus forgive the paralyzed man before he gave him the ability to walk?
- Do you relate to Peter's question in Matthew 18:21? Why do you think he asked the question?
- What does it mean to forgive from the heart?
- Is there someone you need to forgive? If so and you are struggling feel free to ask your group to pray for you and encourage you in this.