

Three necessary requirements for forgiving myself:

1. Come to God for Forgiveness. 1 John 1:8-9, Romans 8:1-2
God forgives specifically, instantly, completely, repeatedly, freely.
2. Forgiving myself requires changing my life pattern.
Philippians 2:12-13
3. Forgiving myself requires creating a new future for myself.
Matthew 16:18, 2 Corinthians 12:9

Forgiving Others Matthew 6:14-15

Forgiving others is not: *Justifying their actions, trusting in the passage of time, denying the hurt, confronting them personally.*

Steps in learning to forgive others.

- Remember Isaiah 1:18, Matthew 18:32-35
- Release Romans 12:17-19
- Recognize Romans 8:28.
- Reestablish Romans 12:18, Romans 12:21.
- Repeat Matthew 6:14-15, Colossians 3:13

Living Forgiven: 5 changes Jesus can make in you

1. Doubt - Assurance Hebrews 10:16-18
2. Guilt - Peace Acts 13:38
3. Grudges - Freedom John 8:36
4. Regret - Hope Romans 4:7
5. Fear - Courage 2 Timothy 1:7

New beginning - let today be that new beginning.

NEXT STEPS

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation. Join with someone and continue to grow by using these study questions this week.

It is God's desire that every believer live a victorious life. Yet, God knows that there will be times when we will fail, miss the mark. His grace provides a way for us to be forgiven and be right with God.

1. Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures.

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. **1 JOHN 2:1**

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. **HEBREWS 4:15–16**

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy. **PROVERBS 28:13**

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. **1 JOHN 1:9**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD" and you forgave the guilt of my sin. **PSALM 32:5**

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. **PSALM 103:12**

When we remember our great need for forgiveness and God's incredible provision, we become more open and willing to forgive others. Jesus addressed this issue in his response to a question Peter asked him. What insights and principles do you learn about forgiveness from Jesus' straightforward answer and insightful parable in Matthew 18:21-35?

What are some signs that a person may not have forgiven someone? What are signs they have forgiven someone?

Looking at this passage and your sermon notes, write down what you think it means to “forgive as the Lord has forgiven you.” (Colossians 3:13)

Read Luke 15:1-32: Take a close look at the story of the prodigal (meaning rebellious) son. Some people focus more on the sin and repentance of the young man than on God’s compassion and purposes. Repentance is necessary. But Jesus’ rejoicing Father completes, indeed dominates, the picture.

When did you first see the joyful side of God’s nature?

What part of these three parables moves you to believe in the possibilities of new or fresh changes in your relationship to family members and with God?

Note the parallels between the prodigal’s coming to the father and our coming to the Father through Christ (John 14:6):

The Prodigal

He was lost (v. 24)

He was ignorant (v. 17)

He was dead (v. 24)

Jesus Christ

“I am the way”

“I am the truth”

“I am the life”

Unstoppable

Today, I accept Jesus offer of forgiveness for myself.

Today, I will take the steps to forgive others.

Today, I will break free of the burden of unforgiveness that holds me back and through the power of Jesus, I will be unstoppable.