

I Want To Forgive Matthew 18:21-35

Magnitude of sin seen when understand breaking God's law brings death - **Ezekiel 18:4**

Death involves eternal separation from God - **2Thessalonians 1:9**

No way man to pay debt: even with riches of world - **Matthew 16:26**

All need of forgiveness from God (debt canceled). - **Romans 3:23; 1John 1:9**

Salvation is available for all, however it is conditional. - **Titus 2:11-14**

We must desire salvation enough to willingly obey God's plan

We must be willing to forgive the offences of others. Everyone needs forgiveness!

One of most needed lessons today is need for forgiving others

What Is Forgiveness?

Forgiveness is not:

Just ignoring those who wrong us. Ignoring sin.

Simply refusing to return evil for evil.

"I'll forgive, but I won't forget." Putting them on probation.

Can't "bury the hatchet" with the handle sticking out!

Forgiveness is:

To excuse for a fault or an offense; pardon; To renounce anger or resentment against; To absolve from payment of - **AH Dictionary**

2 Greek words apo (from) and hiemi (to send) To send forth, send away, let go, give up a debt, forgive, to remit. - **Vine's Expository Dictionary**

Carried Away (Scapegoat). - **Leviticus 16:10; Isaiah 53:6**

Casting Out - **Isaiah 38:17; Micah 7:19**

Starting Over - **Philippians 3:13-14**

According to God's word, (forgiveness is) being like God.

God removes the notation from His record. - **Acts 3:19**

God forgets, putting it out of his memory. - **Hebrews 8:12**

God treats us just like did before we sinned - **Luke 15:21-24**

Forgiveness is fragrance flower gives foot that crushes it

Forgiveness can be better understood when exemplified.

Esau forgave Jacob - **Genesis 33:4**

Joseph forgave his brothers - **Genesis 45:5**

David forgave Saul **1Samuel 24:8-15**

Jesus forgave His oppressors - **Luke 23:34**

Forgiveness can be illusive. Take the "forgiveness test."

"Do I rejoice when misfortune comes to one wronged me?"

"Do I purposefully avoid his presence?"

"Do I speak only when I have to speak?"

"Do I vividly remember the wrong done: brood over it?"

"Do I put the offender on probation?"

"Do I pray for him when he needs special blessings?"

"Have I sought an opportunity to do him a favor?"

Initiating Forgiveness

The offender - **Matthew 5:23-24**

The offended - **Matthew 18:15**

It Is Important

Colossians 3:13; 1Peter 2:21-24; Acts 7:59-60; 1Corinthians 13:5; Matthew 6:14-15

Cultivate Forgiveness

Remember that hatred hurts everyone, including oneself.

Physically, it causes stress, ulcers, and even heart attacks.

Spiritually, it can cause wrath, malice, and separation from God.

Practice praying for our offender - **Matthew 5:44**

Cultivate the grace of mercifulness and compassion. - **Luke 6:36**

When one repents forgive, remember how greatly we have been forgiven - **Matthew 18:21-35**

What about one who doesn't ask forgiveness?

Jesus on cross, prayed, "forgive they know not what they do"

However, shows Jesus refused to hold grudge against accusers.

Must forgive as Christ & God forgive us. Bury hatchet & handle

We must also be people forgiven by God.

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