

Give To Receive 2018-07-29

Matthew 6:12

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."

Much of what psychiatrists do is directly related to forgiveness. Either seeking or giving it.

- Forgiving others has direct effect on our fellowship with the Lord.
 - Don't ask for forgiveness if not willing to give it. Matthew 6:12a, 1 John 1:9

This call to daily CONFESSION of sin: agree with God about our sin/consequences.

- God forgives us when confess because He promises to.
 - Why must Christians daily seek for forgiveness, since Jesus' atonement already cleansed (justified)?

2 kinds of forgiveness: judicial/positional & parental/practical.

- Judicial forgiveness is once-for-all, never repeated when justified by faith in Jesus Christ at salvation. Romans 8:1, Hebrews 10:17, Ephesians 1:7
 - Christian is forgiven ultimate penalty of sin, but continued sins require God's forgiveness not as a Judge but our Father.
- parental/practical forgiveness restores fellowship with the Father that's broken/disrupted because of sin. 1 John 1:10-2:1, Psalm 66:18, John 13:9-10
 - foot washing is example of Jesus' humility and picture of parental/practical forgiveness God gives in His repeated cleansing of Christians.
 - Dirt on feet symbolizes daily surface contamination from sin.
 - Basis of daily cleansing/forgiveness is Jesus' atonement, not human action
 - Never earn Lord's forgiveness....if so it's a wage not grace.

Freely, graciously, joyfully God forgives us fully when we confess and ask forgiveness.

- What's true of God's mercy/forgiveness should be true of Christians'. 1 John 2:6, Colossians 3:13, Matthew 6:12b
 - Verse 12 wording implies person praying already forgiven others.
- Augustine labeled this request, "the terrible petition."
 - Deal with me as I have dealt with others. Matthew 18:21-35 unforgiving servant
 - If we don't forgive others, we are asking God not to forgive us.

Other reasons to extend forgiveness: antidote to moral hardening (Proverbs 28:13), frees conscience from guilt which brings peace of mind, happiness, satisfaction, physical health (1 Corinthians 11:30) & restores fellowship/intimacy with Jesus Christ

- Giving forgiveness to someone is NOT dependent on their actions.
- Are problems in your personal, physical & spiritual life due to unforgiveness?
 - Stop fly fishing and cast others offenses away.

By God's grace extend forgiveness fully and freely to those who sinned against you.

- Evidence you understand greatness of forgiveness you received from God.

Regular confession of sin is way to free/joyful life and experience deeper intimacy with Jesus Christ.

- But before confess sins to receive Lord's parental forgiveness, forgive those who have offended you. Psalm 51:10 Matthew 6:14-15, Luke 6:36-38
- "There is none so tender to others as they which have received mercy." Thomas Manton
 - Without interpersonal reconciliation on human level, fellowship with God will be strained at best but usually broken.
 - Don't ask for forgiveness if not willing to give it.
- Delighting in forgiveness received from Jesus Christ enables you to by God's grace, to fully and freely extend forgiveness to those who have sinned against you.