



I believe I am FORGIVEN, help me Forgive as Christ forgave me.

Big Idea: In _____ to my own forgiveness, which I did not earn, nor do I deserve – I will _____ to forgive others in the same way, and eventually do so without any thought or hesitation.

Eph 4:1-3, 17, 32

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, **bearing with one another** in love. ³ Make **every effort to keep the unity** of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must **no longer live as the Gentiles** do, in the futility of their thinking.

²⁵ Therefore **each of you must ...**

³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, **forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.**

- a. We must forgive for the sake of _____, in _____, and to be _____.
- b. We must forgive both big and small, sometimes often, sometimes repetitively.

Colossians 3:13 **Bear with** each other and **forgive one another** if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (NIV)

Make allowance for each other's faults, and **forgive anyone who offends** you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. (NLT)

- a. God _____ a lot of attitude and behavior that he never calls us on, while he works on our hearts and minds in other areas.
- b. God _____ us to forgive (put up with) a lot of attitude and behavior as well, while he works on the heart of the individual.

Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, **as we also** have forgiven our debtors. (NIV)

And forgive us our debts (sins and moral failures), as we have forgiven our debtors [letting go of both the wrong and the resentment]. (AMP)

- a. The point of this prayer is not to ask God to rise up to our level of forgiveness, but for _____ to rise up to _____.
- b. We would say, "Help us to forgive others _____ you have forgiven us."

Matthew 18:21-35

- a. Jesus told Peter that he was to be exceedingly generous with his forgiveness.
- b. Jesus illustrates this with a parable.
 - i. 10,000 bags of gold = ___ years of day labor wages = an impossible amount to repay.
 - ii. The master handed down a fair and _____ response to the servants inability to pay.
 - iii. Cancelling the debt was an unheard of, extreme _____.
 - iv. 100 silver coins = ___ day of day labor wages = a very doable amount to repay.
 - v. The first servants response to the second servants inability to repay was _____.
 - vi. This response was also uninhibited by the masters earlier forgiveness.
 - vii. The master responded to him, with a much _____ response than before.
 - viii. Jesus issued a strong _____ to those who refuse to forgive.
- c. Jesus made two big points in this dialogue:
 - i. There is no _____ to the forgiveness that you are to grant others.
 - ii. To refuse to forgive is a _____ in the face to the one who forgave you of so very much sin already.
 - iii. Those who refuse to forgive will be _____ so that they learn to forgive in the future.
- d. Jesus never used the word "forget", nor does God when he forgives.
 - i. If God forgot, he would not be God. For us, it is a matter of _____ and _____.