

God Forgave You. Do You Forgive Others?

Revised 8-31-2018



Romans 5:8-9 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

Think of it - while we were still sinners Jesus Christ went to the cross and died for us! He made it possible for us to be at peace with God the Father. He made it possible for us to be saved from the Lake of Fire! He is our Redeemer. There is nothing we could do to redeem or save ourselves; Jesus Christ had to do it and He gladly did it out of love for mankind! The second we believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior, the Holy Spirit baptizes us or identifies us with Jesus Christ. He puts us in union with Jesus Christ. The Father sees us as who we are in Christ. He forgives us because of who we are in Christ!

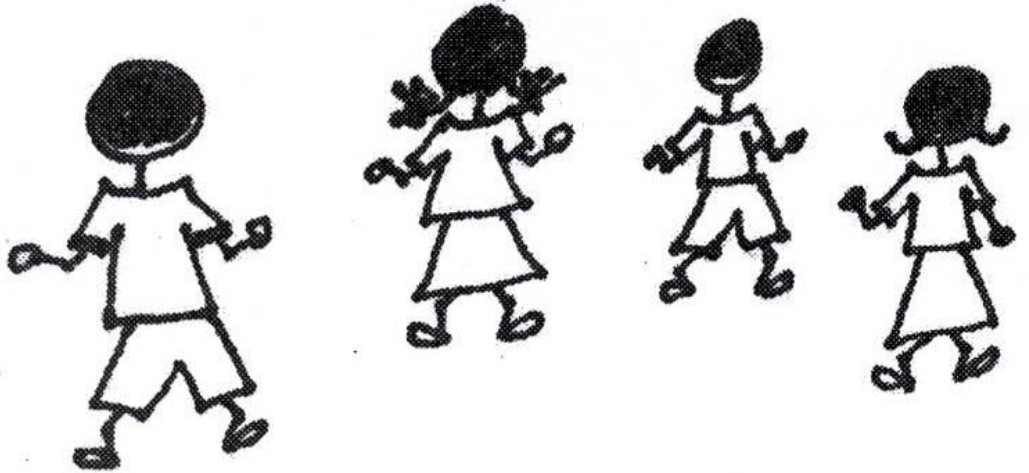
John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.



God's
Love
Never
Fails



We did and do nothing to deserve God's forgiveness. It is a grace gift given to us out of God's love for us - His amazing love! It is so wonderful to be loved and forgiven by God! It gives us peace of mind.



Ephesians 1:7-8a In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

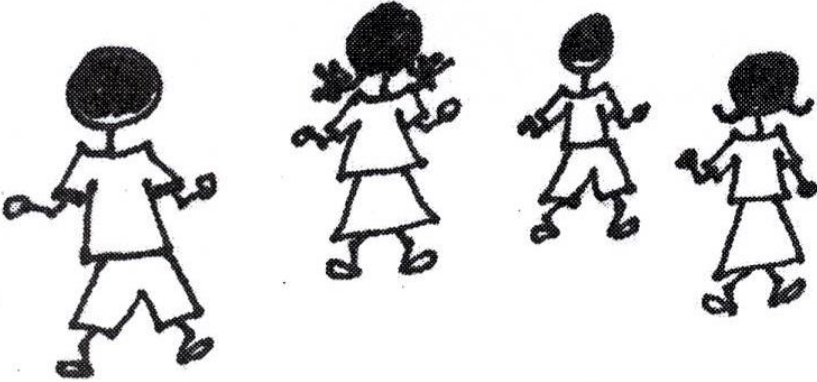
God wants us to learn to forgive others so that we can be at peace with them. This will take time. We need to learn, through the power of the Holy Spirit, Christ's thinking in the Bible. We need lots of Christ's thinking! We will learn that by not forgiving, we hurt ourselves and others! Ouch! We hurt ourselves by being bitter and angry. We hurt others by being bitter and angry at them. This certainly isn't peaceful! We have our eyes on ourselves and not on Jesus Christ and His thinking. That's when we are blaming others for the things they do **against us** instead of looking at what Jesus Christ did **for us** on the cross!



Ephesians 4:31 -32 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

It is difficult to forgive others when we don't see who we are in Christ! God has forgiven us completely because as believers in Jesus Christ we are in Christ! We weren't even condemned for our sins! *Romans 5:19 For as through one man's [Adam's] disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One [Jesus Christ] the many will be made righteous.* We were condemned for Adam's sin. Our old man, or our flesh, was passed down through Adam. Our old man, who we were in Adam, has been nailed to the cross. God considers it dead. We are new men in Christ! That's how God sees us! That's how we are to see ourselves!

Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin for he who has died is free from sin.



We are to live in that new man with no guilt! God the Father forgives us because of **Jesus Christ's sacrifice for us on the cross!** He died on the cross for our sins and that includes the sin of guilt! The Father accepted the sacrifice. Jesus Christ got rid of our guilt! It was nailed to the cross! God has freed us from the burden of sin; we are not to take it back again! He freed us from the burden, or forgave us! Anytime you start to feel guilty, look at who you are in Christ - a new man!



1 John 4:10-11 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (KJV)

Romans 8:1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.



Matthew 18: 21-22 Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him! Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Luke 17:4 Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive.

Seventy times seven meant times without number; just keep forgiving the person. That is a lot of forgiving! Now that doesn't mean that you just stay around and take bullying or abuse from someone. You can leave the situation, get help if you need to, and pray for the person. The person may come to you and ask forgiveness. God wants you to forgive and **God will provide** the spiritual and physical help you need. He wants you to have His peace! Think of how much God has forgiven you and me!



Sometimes we don't even realize that we haven't forgiven someone. We keep it buried. But in God's timing, He will bring it to our knowledge. When we are ready, He will bring it to our attention and help us to get rid of it. He wants to put on us "a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience". Our God is an amazing God. He wants us to have His peace. He wants His peace to pass from us to others. What a privilege and a gift it is to have God's peace and to pass it on to others!

Colossians 3:12-13 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

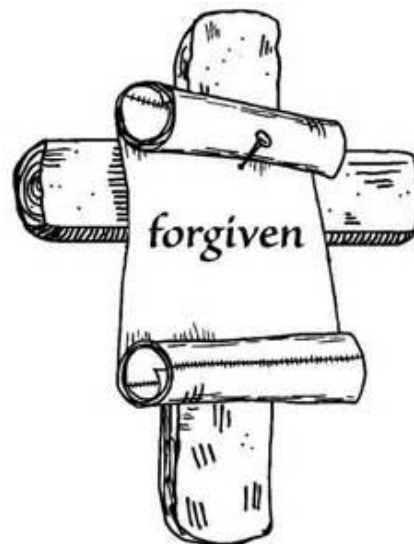


Luke 23:33-34 When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."



Jesus was suffering extreme cruelty and pain. Yet, He asked the Father to forgive those causing the pain! Jesus willingly suffered all of this pain for us! He had excruciating pain. Yet, He had inner peace and joy

because He knew that He would save many people. They would accept God's precious gift of forgiveness by believing in Him! Because of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection many people would have joy and peace.



1 Corinthians 13:4-6 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

This describes our God - each Person of the Trinity! God the Father is love; God the Son is love; God the Holy Spirit is love! They were all involved in our redemption. It was the plan of the Father for all mankind; the Son carried it out; and the Holy Spirit provided His power for the humanity of Jesus Christ. Through the Spirit's power, Jesus was able to live His life on earth and obey the Father's will and plan. The love of God made salvation possible for all mankind! He wants all to be saved and to have His forgiveness! At salvation - when we believe in Jesus Christ - we receive forgiveness!

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God has forgiven you!

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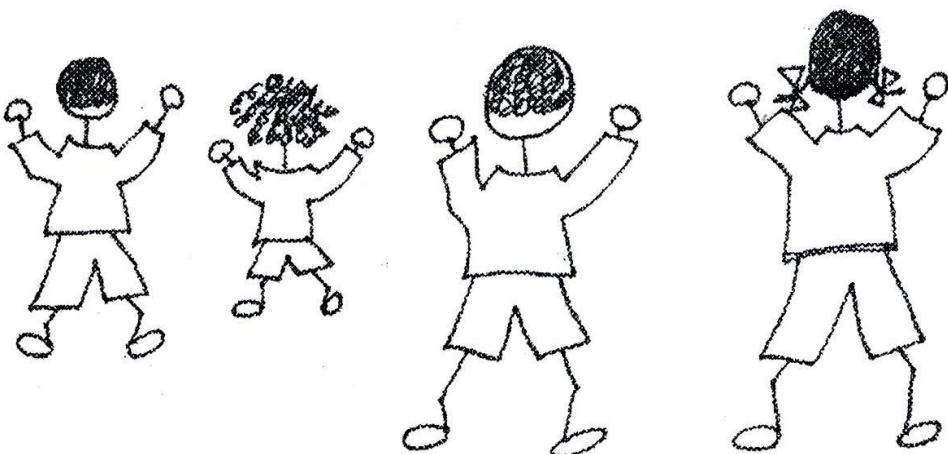
Colossians 1:13-14 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.



You are to forgive others!

Colossians 3:13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

1 Peter 4:8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.



More Scriptures on forgiveness.

2 Corinthians 2:7 Now, however, it is time to forgive and comfort him. Otherwise he may be overcome by discouragement.

Ephesians 4:32 Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Matthew 18:32-33 Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?'

Luke 7:47 "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love."

