

“FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS”

Matthew 6:12-15

What does our forgiveness of others have to do with God’s forgiveness of us?

LET’S GET STARTED

Does your forgiveness of others match God’s forgiveness of you? Jesus taught us to ask God’s forgiveness, and in this study, we will explore what our Lord meant when He said we should ask God to “Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one” (Matthew 6:12-13).

LET’S HEAR THE WORD

- “Debts” (v. 12) means _____.
Luke 11:4 “Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. . .”
- “Lead us not into temptation” (v. 13) means “_____ me _____ from tempting circumstances and situations.”
James 1:13-14—¹³ When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone. ¹⁴ but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.
- “Deliver us from the evil one” (v. 13) means “protect me from Satan, who wants to _____ me.”
1 Peter 5:8—Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Quotable

Though God’s forgiveness of sin is not based on one’s forgiving others, a Christian’s forgiveness is based on realizing he has been forgiven. Personal fellowship with God is in view in these verses, not salvation from sin. One cannot walk in fellowship with God if he refuses to forgive others.

—Bible Background Commentary

When our hearts have been regenerated, forgiveness is the necessary product of our new natures. This is why we do not ask, “Forgive because we forgive, but “forgive “as” our new natures forgive.

—Exegetical Commentary

If you would like to know more

The Prayer That Turns the World Upside Down, by Albert Mohler (Thomas Nelson, 2019)

“FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS” (Matthew 6:12-15)

OBSERVATIONS ON CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- God’s forgiveness is not earned by _____ forgiveness of _____, or by anything else we do.

Titus 3:5—[God] saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 2:8-9—⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

- Believers ask God’s forgiveness, not in order to stay in relationship with God, but to stay in _____ with Him.

1 John 1:6—If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

- It displeases God when we ask Him to forgive us while we _____ to forgive others.

Matthew 18:32-33—³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’”

- Forgiving others and releasing grudges is a mark of _____.

Psalms 18:25-26—²⁵ To the faithful you show yourself faithful, to the blameless you show yourself blameless, ²⁶ to the pure you show yourself pure, but to the crooked you show yourself shrewd.

LET’S LIVE IT

Each of us can pray as Jesus taught us to by regularly confessing our sins to God and by asking for His grace to forgive others as much as He has forgiven us.

If you would like to speak to any of our Pastors about a spiritual need in your life, here is their contact information:

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Pastor David: Office extension 11, email: dcoleman@crowfieldbaptist.org

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You may also discover what the Bible says about how to become a Christian by visiting the following page on our website: <http://www.crowfieldbaptist.com/salvation/>