

A PATTERN FOR DISCIPLES TO PRAY

LESSON FIVE – MATTHEW 6:12

TWO PRAYERS IN ONE VERSE

- An explicit prayer for **forgiveness**
- An implicit prayer for a **forgiving spirit**

THE TERRIBLE PETITION

Augustine – Matthew 6:12 borders on asking God not to forgive us.

Spurgeon – You read your own death warrant.

THE ONE VERSE RESTATED

Matthew 6:14 – 15. *“If you refuse to forgive, your heavenly Father will discipline you severely.”*

MATTHEW 18:32-35

- Unforgiveness is a Big Deal
- Unforgiveness brings about much suffering

WORD STUDY

- Forgiveness – 143x in 131 verses
- “*to send away, or dismiss*”
- Leviticus 16:21-22

A MORAL OR ETHICAL DEBT

- ✓ Only God is able to remove sin
- ✓ When we forgive, we liberate a person from their sin, their guilt, and their power.

FORGIVENESS = CAUSING A SEPARATION

From Secular Greek, forgiveness conveys “*to throw.*” “*Letting the pot drop.*”

Only the Bible teaches God completely forgives sin.

BOMBSHELL THEOLOGY

“If we will not forgive, we are not Christians!”

OUR CONFUSION WITH FORGIVING

Do you find yourself struggling to forgive?

Is all forgiveness the same?

NO

THE TARGET OF THIS PRAYER

❖ Who is this prayer directed toward?

Verse 9 – Our Father

❖ Is this a singular or continual request? continual

ANOTHER CONTINUAL REQUEST

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful
and just to forgive us our sins, ...

TWO TYPES OF FORGIVENESS

JUSTIFICATION: declared righteous

Romans 8:1, 33-34; Gal. 3:13

GOD'S PAYMENT FOR SIN

The blood of Jesus Christ covers all of
my
Past, Present, and Future sin.

Romans 4:7-8

FORGIVENESS – TYPE #1

JUDICIAL

At salvation, God as Judge,
declares the believer righteous,
because sin is PAID in FULL.

ONLY ONE WAY OF SALVATION

1. Basis for salvation – death of Christ
2. Requirement for salvation – faith
3. Object of faith – God
4. Content of faith – changes per dispensation

THE LAST SUPPER – JOHN 13

Contrasting

- Daily Bath
- Foot washing

VERB TENSES

- 1 John 1:7 keeps cleansing
- 1 John 1:9 continually confessing

PARENTAL VS JUDICIAL

Judicial deals with the *penalty*

Parental deals with the
consequences

PARENTAL VS JUDICIAL

Judicial frees us from condemnation

Parental sets things right with the
Father

PARENTAL VS JUDICIAL

Judicial gives unshakable standing

Parental deals with the state of our
sanctification (Heb. 4:16)

AS WE FORGIVE

Believers have an obligation to forgive.

*“I found a little remedy, to ease the life we live. And make each day a happier one: It is the word **“forgive.”**”*

A COMPARISON

“**as** we forgive our debtors.”

Matthew 5:7 “*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.*”

NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES

1. Fellowship disrupted
2. Holy Spirit grieved – Eph. 4:30
3. Prayers hindered – 1 Peter 3:7
4. God chastens – Heb. 12:7

NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES

5. Devil gains a foothold – Eph. 4:27

6. We lose the blessing

7. The threat of bitterness – Heb.
12:15

APPLICATION

1. Confession draws us closer to God –
Psalms 51:1
2. Confession models the Savior – John 13:35
3. Forgiveness brings true freedom – John
10:10