



God's Greatest Power

1. Anger never _____
*"In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and **do not give the devil a foothold.** Ephesians 4:26-27*

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger... Eph. 4:30-31

2. What do we do about our anger?
*Be kind and compassionate to one another, **forgiving each other,** just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32*

Why Do We Forgive? Matthew 18:21-34

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰ *“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.*

³¹ *When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.*

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?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.*

Our Debt

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23

But God showed his love for us in this, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

3. We forgive because we have committed ourselves to

4. If we fail to forgive, we have _____ the forgiveness God has shown us
“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” Matthew 18:35

5. How to forgive

“God, I forgive name, for action, and making me feel feelings”

Tips:

- Forgiveness is not the same thing as trust
- Do not go up to the person and say, “I forgive you” unless they apologize, Often that will make things worse. However, forgive that person in prayer before God for your own sake.

DAILY GROWTH

The 4 C Questions. Use these questions to study and apply scripture

CELEBRATE: What can you praise God for from this passage?

CONFESS: Are you convicted of something you need to confess to God?

COMMIT: What commitment does this passage challenge you to make?

COMMUNICATE: What did you learn that you could share with others?

Day 1: Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What are the words used to describe our condition before we are saved? Do you feel you fully appreciate your desperate condition before you were saved? Explain. How are you described after salvation? Which after salvation description do you like best and why? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 2: Read 1 Peter 2:22-25 and Romans 5:6-10. At what cost were your sins forgiven and your salvation secured? Given the price paid, how important would you say forgiveness is to God? How do you show your appreciation for this sacrifice? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 3: Read Luke 7:36-50. Parables always have one main point, what is the main point of the parable Jesus told in this passage? How does this parable apply to what you have been learning about forgiveness and the reason to forgive others? How does this apply to your own life? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 4: Read Matthew 6:12-15 and Mark 11:25. Based on your study over the last few days, why do you think Jesus ties our forgiveness of others so closely with his forgiveness of our sins? **What is God saying to you?** (use the “4 C” questions)

The 4 C Questions. Use these questions to study and apply scripture

CELEBRATE: What can you praise God for from this passage?

CONFESS: Are you convicted of something you need to confess to God?

COMMIT: What commitment does this passage challenge you to make?

COMMUNICATE: What did you learn that you could share with others?

Day 5: Read Matthew 18:21-35 from the sermon notes. A helpful clue to interpreting parables is to see if there is anything astonishing or unexpected. These things usually point to the lesson Jesus wants to teach. What astonishes you in this parable and why? How does this parable apply to your own life? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 6 Read Ephesians 4:32. You have been studying about forgiveness all week. It is likely God has been speaking to you about someone(s) you need to forgive. Practice the forgiveness model taught in the sermon notes.

1. Pray and ask God to reveal to you people and things that need to be forgiven and let go of.
2. Make a list of the Person and Action that hurt you and how it made you feel. The more specific and thorough the list is, the better.
3. Pray again for the courage and willingness to forgive in obedience and gratitude for God’s great forgiveness.
4. For each item on the list, repeat this prayer:
“God I forgive PERSON, for ACTION, and making me feel FEELING.”