

REQUESTING FORGIVENESS

Requesting forgiveness will always be met with forgiveness from the Father. It's so important that we recognize that any sin we commit is first and foremost against Him. He died for those sins and is ready and waiting to lavish us with His love and forgiveness as we repent to Him.

Repentance is a turning away. You'll see in the Word that when Jesus forgave people He told them to "go and sin no more." Maybe that sounds impossible to you, but be assured those who have been forgiven of much love much and that love causes your heart to change, even if it takes some time.

All you need to do to be forgiven by the Father is confess your sin to Him and apologize. There is no sin that is too great to be forgiven for! He has paid for them all. Messing up as a Christian doesn't mean you lose your salvation, but it does mean that you need to restore your relationship with your heavenly Father through repentance.

Requesting forgiveness from other people can feel harder-there's no guarantee you'll be met with the forgiveness you are requesting. Sin is messy, and sometimes the consequences of our sins negatively impact the people we love. Even if they refuse to release forgiveness to you, it's important to the Father that you do everything you can to be restored to unity with others.

The enemy is the one who breeds division and dissension. Jesus' heart's cry in His last prayer before going to the cross (John 17) was for people to be in unity with Him and one another.

It's so important that we walk in love and humility with one another. When we are wrong we have to be willing to admit it and give a true apology with no "buts."

RELEASING FORGIVENESS

The Word is very clear about our need to release forgiveness to those who have wronged us. Jesus forgave us even before we were repentant, so how could we withhold forgiveness when we have experienced such lavish grace?

Forgiveness isn't an easy road to walk. How do you forgive someone who doesn't care, and who may never apologize for hurting you? Does forgiving mean you need to forget everything that happened? Do you have to allow that person back into your life?

Forgiveness is NOT being a doormat, forgetting, or continuing in unhealthy relationships. Forgiveness IS releasing love to those who have wronged you and moving on in life and health for yourself. Forgiveness is more for you than it is for the people you need to forgive.

Unforgiveness can cause roots of bitterness, resentment, rage, sickness, stress, and more to plague you. Walking in love releases others, but it also releases you from any stronghold of the enemy that entered you when you allowed unforgiveness to take root.

Forgiving doesn't mean you have to forget what happened, but it does mean that you make an actionable choice to walk out forgiveness. You are a child of the King and He doesn't want you to be treated poorly. It isn't wrong to remove yourself from harmful situations and relationships, but how we go about doing this matters. Leaving a relationship with hate in your heart, or with the intention to hurt another is never right, no matter what they may have done to you.

Forgetting what happened isn't biblical either, it's important that people are held accountable for their actions. For example, forgetting that someone is abusing a child is unacceptable- you don't remember so you can hold things against them, you remember to help them transform, and to protect other people when necessary.

We firmly believe in seeking out the gold in others, but we also believe in confronting the unholy in a godly, Christlike way. Only you will know how the Holy Spirit is asking you to handle those you need to forgive in your life, but we are all accountable to Him for how we handle it and how we release forgiveness to others.

SIT DOWN AND WRITE LETTERS TO THOSE YOU NEED TO FORGIVE. THE FIRST LETTER SHOULD CONTAIN YOUR HURT AND WHY YOU FEEL THE WAY YOU DO. THE SECOND LETTER SHOULD BE A LETTER OF FORGIVENESS TO THAT PERSON. AFTER YOU FINISH WRITING, BURN THEM AND RELEASE THEM TO THE FATHER.

prayers of forgiveness

**LORD. I RELEASE FORGIVENESS TO MYSELF. I
FORGIVE MYSELF FOR _____**

**THANK YOU FOR FORGIVING ME IN MY SIN
AND WASHING ME CLEAN. I LOVE AND
FORGIVE MYSELF BECAUSE YOU LOVE AND
FORGIVE ME. AMEN.**

**LORD. I RELEASE FORGIVENESS TO _____
FOR _____**

**I REFUSE TO HOLD ONTO THEM IN UNFORGIVENESS
AND ASK YOU TO CLEANSE ME OF BITTERNESS,
ANGER, RESENTMENT AND SICKNESS THAT
HARBORING UNFORGIVENESS INVITED INTO ME. I
RELEASE _____ FROM ANY PERCEIVED
OBLIGATIONS OR DEBTS I FEEL THEY OWE ME. I
REPENT FOR WITHHOLDING LOVE WHEN YOU HAVE
LAVISHLY LOVED ME. I RECEIVE THE POWER OF
THE BLOOD OF JESUS TO CLEANSE ME FROM ALL
UNFORGIVENESS AND ITS EFFECTS. THANK YOU FOR
SENDING YOUR HEALING OF THIS PAIN IN MY HEART
AND GIVING ME YOUR LOVE AND PERSPECTIVE FOR
_____ AND THIS SITUATION. AMEN.**

Pray Like Jesus

**OUR BELOVED FATHER, DWELLING IN THE
HEAVENLY REALM. MAY THE GLORY OF
YOUR NAME BE THE CENTER ON WHICH
OUR LIVES TURN. MANIFEST YOUR
KINGDOM REALM AND CAUSE YOUR EVERY
PURPOSE TO BE FULFILLED ON EARTH
JUST AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. WE
ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS OUR PROVIDER OF
ALL WE NEED EACH DAY. FORGIVE US THE
WRONGS WE HAVE DONE AS WE
OURSELVES RELEASE FORGIVENESS TO
THOSE WHO HAVE WRONGED US. RESCUE
US EVERY TIME WE FACE TRIBULATION
AND SET US FREE FROM EVIL. FOR YOU
ARE THE KING WHO RULES WITH POWER
AND GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.**

Matthew 6:9-13 pt

Giving Grace

Sometimes, when we feel we have been wronged, we try to justify our negative feelings or thoughts toward the person who sinned against us. Even when we are trying to extend grace to them, our thought life can be negative and self-righteous.

It is so important to ask the Father to renew your mind so you can take these thoughts captive. Ask Him to give you HIS heart for the person you are struggling with.

When we remember that we are never warring against flesh and blood (Ephesians 6), it helps to shift our perspective and establishes compassion within us. When Jesus acted, it was always with compassion.

Grace is receiving something you didn't earn (salvation), and mercy is not receiving something you did deserve (hell). God is gracious and merciful to us, so we need to be gracious and merciful to ourselves and others as well.

Forgiving and then giving grace to others and ourselves isn't an easy road to walk-it's the narrow way, but staying on it leads to Kingdom life here on earth and is so worth it.

Extending grace to those who have wronged us isn't just "letting them off the hook," every action whether good or bad has a consequence. While you can't always protect people from the consequences of their actions, you can be a picture of the love and grace of Christ for them in those situations.

Grace isn't a "free to sin again" card. Grace is a transformative experience that causes you to live in gratitude that wants to serve in love. The people who encountered Jesus and received grace in the Word, like the Samaritan woman at the well, were transformed. She even went on to become the first evangelist and share about Jesus with everyone in her village.

For we do not wrestle against
flesh and blood , but against
the rulers , against the
authorities , against the
cosmic powers over this present
darkness , against the
spiritual forces of evil in the
heavenly places.

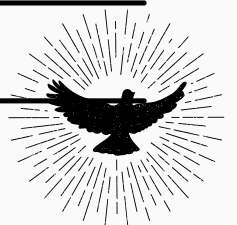


Ephesians 6:12
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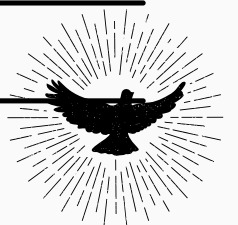
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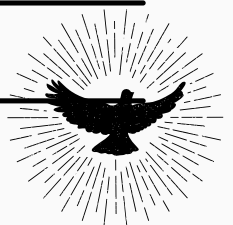


LETTERS



LETTERS

Handwriting practice lines for the word LETTERS.



LETTERS

A series of 21 horizontal lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice.

