

### HOW TO FORGIVE OTHERS

New Life Bible Church

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A family friendly, never alone, purpose driven church

Forgiveness: Showing unconditional love to someone (the offender) who has hurt you deeply, even to your core.

Unconditional Love: Caring for and treating the offender as if they have never hurt you at all.

NOTE: Forgiving isn't easy however, it is necessary.

### “LAST WEEK’S SERMON SUMMARY”

- Our salvation with God depends upon our forgiveness.
  
- Our communication with God depend upon our forgiveness.
  
- Our Christ-likeness depends upon our forgiveness.
  
- Our commitment to God’s WORD depends upon our forgiveness.
  
- Our emotional stability depends upon our forgiveness.

1. First, you must consider what great MERCY has been shown to you.

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? Matthew 18:32-33

God shows his love for us, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

2. Second, you must pray to God to increase your FAITH to forgive.

Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive.” The apostles said to the Lord, “Show us how to increase our faith.” Luke 17:4-5

Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” 2 Corinthians 12:8,9

He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations. Psalm 46:10  
(LEARN ABOUT ME)

Make sure that you don't seek revenge, but always strive to do what is good for everyone else. Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 5:15-19

3. Thirdly, look for the spiritual LESSON God is communicating to you.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds. James 1:2

And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent

me here to preserve life. Genesis 45:5

When you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God. For you have been called for this purpose. 1 Peter 2:20-21

(God doesn't plan our problems but our problems are in HIS plan)

4. Finally, stop investing in HURT and start investing in HOPE.

Brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on. Philippians 3:13-14

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Philippians 4:8

Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh and said, "It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household." The second son he named Ephraim and said, "It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering." Genesis 41:51-52

But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, dirty language and clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:8,14

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