

Question: How do I forgive when I don't feel like I can?

How does God forgive?

Romans 5:12, 18 NKJV Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to **all men**, because all sinned-- Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to **all men**, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to **all men**, resulting in justification of life.

Hebrews 7:27 NIV Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. **He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.**

- ✓ When Jesus died for us, He died _____.
- ✓ When Jesus died for us, he _____ the sin debt that we were incapable of paying.

Colossians 2:13-14 NASB (13) When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, (14) **having canceled out the certificate of debt** consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

- ✓ So, in the heart of God, we are forgiven and the debt we owed is paid in full but does that mean we are automatically _____?
- ✓ We must acknowledge the _____ that we are sinners, realize what He did for us, _____ and then receive His _____.

Romans 10:9-10 NKJV that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. (10) For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

- ✓ There is the _____ of Forgiveness and the _____ of Forgiveness.

Matthew 18:21-35 NKJV (35) "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, **from his heart**, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

How do I forgive?

Matthew 6:11-12, 14-15 Give us this day our daily bread. (12) And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. (14) "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. (15) But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

1. With a heart of forgiveness, you release that person from owing you _____ to make things right between you.
2. This might be something you do _____; but do it until you have fully released the debt.

Luke 17:3-4 NKJV Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. (4) And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."
3. If and when they come to you and _____, then you extend to them the act of forgiveness and restore the relationship.

Matthew 3:8 NLT Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God.

- ✓ What if they never repent and ask for _____?

Ephesians 4:31 NKJV Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

Question: How do I forgive when I don't feel like I can?

How does God forgive?

Romans 5:12, 18 NKJV Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to **all men**, because all sinned-- Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to **all men**, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to **all men**, resulting in justification of life.

Hebrews 7:27 NIV Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. **He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.**

- ✓ When Jesus died for us, He died **for all**.
- ✓ When Jesus died for us, he **paid in full** the sin debt that we were incapable of paying.

Colossians 2:13-14 NASB (13) When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, (14) **having canceled out the certificate of debt** consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

- ✓ So, in the heart of God, we are forgiven and the debt we owed is paid in full but does that mean we are automatically **saved**?
- ✓ We must acknowledge the **truth** that we are sinners, realize what He did for us, **repent** and then **receive** His forgiveness.

Romans 10:9-10 NKJV that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. (10) For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

- ✓ There is the **Heart** of Forgiveness and the **Act** of Forgiveness.

Matthew 18:21-35 NKJV (35) "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, **from his heart**, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

How do I forgive?

Matthew 6:11-12, 14-15 Give us this day our daily bread. (12) And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. (14) "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. (15) But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

1. With a heart of forgiveness, you release that person from owing you **a debt** to make things right between you.
2. This might be something you do **many times**; but do it until you have fully released the debt.

Luke 17:3-4 NKJV Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. (4) And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."
3. If and when they come to you and **repent**, then you extend to them the act of forgiveness and restore the relationship.

Matthew 3:8 NLT Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God.

- ✓ What if they never repent and ask for **forgiveness**?

Ephesians 4:31 NKJV Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.