

# FORGIVENESS

## Mercy — Part 4

*“Forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.” Matthew 6:12 (NLT)*

**MERCY:** undeserved **FORGIVENESS** and unearned **KINDNESS**

**KEY TRUTH #1:** Mercy means God **FORGIVES** me.

### **Observations about God’s forgiveness:**

**OBSERVATION #1:** God **WANTS** to forgive me.

*“You are a God of forgiveness, always ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to become angry, and full of love and mercy.” Nehemiah 9:17b (TLB)*

*“You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.” Micah 7:18b (NIV)*

**OBSERVATION #2:** God **FREELY** forgives me.

*“All of us have sinned . . . yet now God declares us ‘not guilty’ of offending him if we trust in Jesus Christ, who freely takes away our sins.” Romans 3:23-24 (TLB)*

**OBSERVATION #3:** God **IMMEDIATELY** forgives me.

*“God is merciful and quick to forgive.” Isaiah 55:7b (TEV)*

**OBSERVATION #4:** God **COMPLETELY** forgives me.

*“. . . God forgave all our sins. He canceled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ’s cross.” Colossians 2:13-14 (NLT)*

*“You will have mercy on us again; you will conquer our sins. You will throw away all our sins into the deepest part of the sea.” Micah 7:19 (NCV)*

*“Mercy triumphs over judgment!” James 2:13 (NIV)*

**KEY TRUTH #2:** Mercy means I forgive **OTHERS**.

### **QUIZ**

- A person should not be forgiven until he or she asks for it. **T F**
- You haven’t really forgiven until you’ve forgotten the offense. **T F**
- Forgiving includes minimizing the offense and the pain caused. **T F**
- Forgiveness includes restoring trust and reuniting a relationship. **T F**
- When I see someone hurt, it is my duty to forgive the offender. **T F**

**#1:** Forgiveness is not **CONDITIONAL**.

*“Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32b (MSG)*

**#2:** Forgiveness is not **FORGETTING**.

*“Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. You too should be on your guard against him because he strongly opposed our message.” 2 Timothy 4:14-15 (NIV)*

**#3:** Forgiveness doesn’t mean you **TRUST** the person again.

*“...be on your guard against him... 2 Timothy 4:15a (NIV)*

**#4:** Forgiveness is **RELEASING** it to God.

*“Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” Colossians 3:13b (NLT)*