



**April 23, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell**  
**Matthew 6:12-15 | “Freed to Forgive”**

**Sermon Application Review from Matthew 18:21–35**

How have you rejoiced in God’s unlimited forgiveness this past week?  
Did you complete your handwritten list of those you have chosen to forgive?

**Scripture References**

Matthew 6:12, 14–15  
Mark 11:20–25  
Ephesians 1:7; 4:26, 32  
Colossians 1:13–14; 2:13–14; 3:12–14  
1 John 1:5–2:2  
Hebrews 12:4–13  
1 Peter 2:21–23

**Study Questions**

1. How often do you pray the Lord’s prayer or a similar prayer outline (6:9–15)? How well do you grasp God’s vast forgiveness? What role does receiving God’s forgiveness play in your prayers?
2. What role does extending forgiveness to others play in your prayers (6:12, 14–15)? What aspects of forgiving others do you find most difficult? Why? Can you think of any wrong that would be impossible for you to forgive? Explain.
3. Have you ever had someone refuse to forgive you? What do you think was the reason for that refusal? How did you respond? Did time eventually heal the wound for either of you? Why or why not? How have you processed recurring bitterness and anger toward someone after you have chosen to forgive them?
4. What is one example, past or present, of bitterness in your life? In what ways did you choose to hold on to that offense? How did you eventually release it to the Lord?
5. How can you truly forgive someone when you don’t feel like forgiving? What are the consequences of unforgiveness to your overall well-being? If you knew you only had twenty-four hours to live, who would you forgive or ask forgiveness from? What practical steps can you take in order to forgive so you can begin enjoying the benefits of God’s forgiveness?

**Recommended Reading**

Wendell E. Miller, *Forgiveness: The Power and the Puzzles* (ClearBrook, 1994)  
Gary Inrig, *Forgiveness: Discover the Power and Reality of Authentic Christian Forgiveness* (Discovery House, 2005)  
F. LeRon Shults and Steven J. Sandage, *Faces of Forgiveness: Searching for Wholeness and Salvation* (Baker Academic, 2003)