

The Journey Begins: Foundations for Discipleship

Session 6: Can I be Accepted and Forgiven?

Purpose of the Lesson:

To understand that God offers complete _____ and _____ through Jesus Christ — not based on what we do, but on what He has done for us.

Opening Thought

When people make mistakes, how do they usually try to make things right — and why do those efforts often still leave us feeling _____ or _____?

We all long to be accepted and forgiven — especially by God. But how can we know for sure that He really _____ us?

A. Our Need for Forgiveness

Read: Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:2, Romans 6:23

- What separates me from God? _____
- How does sin affect my relationship with Him? My sin _____ me from a holy God, and I cannot fix that separation by myself.

B. God's Provision for Forgiveness

Read: Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18

- God took the _____. Through Jesus Christ's _____ and _____, He made a way for us to be _____ and forgiven.

C. Forgiveness Is a Gift, Not Earned

Read: Ephesians 2:8-9

- Forgiveness and salvation are received by _____ through _____ — not by _____, effort, or religious activity.

D. Receiving God's Forgiveness

Read: 1 John 1:8-10; John 1:12

- What must I do to receive forgiveness? _____
- _____ and _____ are the doors to acceptance. When we agree with God about our sin and trust in Jesus' finished work, we receive _____ and become His _____.

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E. Living in Freedom and Acceptance

Read: Romans 8:1; Romans 5:1

- Once forgiven, we no longer live under _____ or _____. We have _____ with God and freedom to walk in relationship with Him.
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Application & Reflection

1. What's one area of your life where you struggle to feel accepted by God?
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2. How does today's study challenge the way you view forgiveness?
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3. Who could you share this truth with this week?
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Summary Truths

- Everyone has _____ and needs forgiveness.
 - God's acceptance is based on His _____, not our _____.
 - Jesus paid the full _____ for our sin.
 - Forgiveness is received by _____, not by _____.
 - When we trust Christ, we are fully _____, _____, and _____.
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Prayer Focus

"Lord, thank You that through Jesus I can be **accepted** and **forgiven**. Help me to live in the freedom of Your **grace** and share Your forgiveness with others."