

FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER  
Ephesians 4:32 ESV

*"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."*  
A.W. Tozer (The Knowledge of the Holy p.1)

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

❖ Three Realities About Forgiving One Another:

1. Following Jesus means FORGIVING OTHERS.

*"... forgiving one another..." (v.32b)*

*At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, "Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?"<sup>22</sup> Jesus replied, "Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven."*

Matthew 18:21-22 (The Message Paraphrase)

2. Following Jesus means forgiving others as WE HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN.

*"... as God in Christ forgave you." (v.32b)*

**FORGIVENESS:** *the removal of the guilt & shame of sin—past, present, and future.*

*... as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.*  
Psalm 103:12 (ESV)

*Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever because he delights in steadfast love.<sup>19</sup> He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.*

Micah 7:18-19 (ESV)

*... but in love you have delivered my life from the pit of destruction, for you have cast all my sins behind your back.*

Isaiah 38:17b (ESV)

*"I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."*

Isaiah 43:25 (ESV)

*"If we truly forgive another that means putting an end to the matter by forgiving just as God has forgiven us, acknowledging the wrong and its effect on us, and then dismissing it, no longer pressing judgment and never calling it back to mind... True forgiveness will*

*mean that even if in our humanity we cannot completely forget the actions and effects that someone's sin caused, we can forgive the sin itself and refrain from allowing it to affect our estimation of that person."*

Walter L. Liefield (IVP Intersity Press Commentary, Ephesians)

3. Forgiving others as we've been forgiven is ONLY possible through CHRIST in me.

*Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. <sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. <sup>19</sup> They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. <sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!— <sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*

Ephesians 4:17-24 (ESV)

*I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

Philippians 4:13 (ESV)