

Matthew 6:9-13 Onscreen

12 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

What is Jesus teaching us here?

1. We should be coming to Him regularly to ask for forgiveness.
2. We must also forgive those who have wronged us.

The tension we live in is very real, we often times want forgiveness for ourselves and only justice for those who have sinned against us. Jesus is trying to get us to understand that having un-forgiveness in our lives has so many undesired consequences.

1. Un-forgiveness will put a wall in the place of a path.

God's desire for our lives is that we would grow and mature to be more like Jesus. Yet because of un-forgiveness in our lives, many of us have hit a wall and stopped growing.

Colossians 3:12-13

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. Un-forgiveness will put bitterness in the place of joy.

"Un-Forgiveness that goes unchecked will ultimately develop into bitterness".

3. Un-forgiveness will put bondage in the place of freedom.

Many of the behaviors in our lives have been shaped by un-forgiveness. We hold onto offenses and let them consume our thoughts, control our actions, and eventually conform our behavior. We are called in the Bible to continue to be transformed by the renewal of our minds so that we can have better discernment.

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

4. Un-forgiveness will put the past in the place of the future

5. Un-forgiveness will attempt to put you in the place of God.

James 4:12

12 There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you, judging your neighbor?

Jesus teaches us that we should come to Him daily for forgiveness and also to forgive others. Who do you need to forgive today?

**Sermon Discussion Questions: The Lord's Prayer | Forgive us our Debts
Compelled Church | March 5-6th, 2022 | Pastor Nate Elarton**

1. Read the Lord's Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13
2. What changes, if any, have you noticed in your prayer life since we began this study on the Lord's Prayer? If you were to take the next step in getting serious with your prayer life, what is something you need to start doing?
3. When you hear the word "forgive," what do you think about? What does forgiveness mean to you?
4. Read 1 John 1:9-2:2. According to this passage, what must we do if we want Christ to forgive our sins?
5. How has forgiveness affected your life?
 - a. What impact has it made on you?
 - b. Have you experienced a healing of a severed relationship?
6. Is there anyone who truly comes to Jesus who is "too bad" to be forgiven? Why or why not? 8. Our Father in heaven meets each of these. Go back through each one and share how you have experienced each one from the Lord?
7. Do you believe with confidence that God can forgive you? If not, why not?
8. Have you personally felt the effects of holding un-forgiveness in your heart? What were some of the effects it had in your life?
9. What sins are hardest for you to forgive?
10. How does Jesus help you to forgive?
11. "Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive" (Colossians 3:13). Motivated by Christ, how do we "bear with each other" and live under His cross?
12. Make a list of two people you need to forgive and two who need to forgive you.

To whom will you speak first? Why?