

The Gospel of Mark – Faith & Forgiveness (part 2)

Mark 11:20-26 – August 23, 2026

Prayer increases clarity and power, which leads to kingdom engagement

Believe: to be persuaded of, to acknowledge something that is a fact.

“Whoever says...” kingdom engagement

John 14:12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Jesus set no limitations to the possibilities of prayer, but such successful praying must have a true foundation - D. Edmund Hiebert

In My name, according to My will.

[vs. 25] – power comes from prayer and grows a humble confidence

If the church is ever found powerless, it will be because it became prayerless

THE MAIN IDEA... **“HAVE FAITH IN GOD” (22)**

Have faith in God – literally “To have the faith of God.”

To have a faith that knows with confidence that what is impossible and almost unimaginable is accomplished by God with great ease and seemingly little to no effort.

SET YOUR FAITH IN GOD!

(FULLY TRUST THE LORD)

DO YOU TRUST THE LORD?

Do you trust the Lord with your singleness?

Do you trust the Lord with your spouse?

Do you trust the Lord with your children?

Do you trust the Lord with your career?

Do you trust the Lord with your health?

Do you trust the Lord with your finances?

Do you trust the Lord with your reputation?

Do you trust the Lord with your appearance?

Do you trust the Lord with your future?

There is a bear trap that locks down and holds captive our faith. Unforgiveness

The stretching, the exciting, now for the challenging

There is a power and divine confidence that comes through prayer or maybe better understood, IN prayer, but can be blocked by a lack of forgiveness.

Miracle on the Hudson

- January 15, 2009 – Captain Sully piloting Flight 1549
- Departing New York City heading for NC.

- Just 2 minutes after takeoff, the plane struck a flock of geese
 - Both engines lost power and caused an emergency landing On the Hudson River – coining the incident, Miracle on the Hudson
 - 155 souls got on and 155 souls got off.
- Things hit and take away power and momentum.

Mark 11:25-26

Whoever says... not just disciples

Whenever you PRAY... always available.

STANDING – (Battle Prayers?) (To stand firm, persevere, persist)

C.S. Lewis “Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive.

Forgive: to let go, to give up, a final farewell, to send away.

Viking Burial – push it out and burn it down.

Jesus’ teaching comes with a warning

Getting forgiveness is in proportion to your giving of forgiveness (1 John)

Father forgive: Relation vs. Salvation

Matthew 18 Mountains and Molehills

Forgiveness is not void of emotion and often includes tears and even trepidation. Think of the cross... God extending forgiveness to us included pain, sorrow.
“forgive them, they know not what they do.”

Unforgiveness doesn’t hurt or punish them

Unforgiveness hurts and punishes you

You are taking what they did to you and then repeatedly hitting yourself with it.

“Holding onto hurt does not hurt others, only ourselves.” Billy Graham

Forgiveness vs. Reconciliation (To balance accounts) vs. Restoration

BOTH SIDES ARE ACCOUNTABLE – SPIRITUAL MATURITY & OBEDIENCE

- When you wrong someone: **Matthew 5:24** GO BE RECONCILED
 - Accidentally or unknowingly does NOT dismiss it.
- When someone wrongs you: **Matthew 18:** YOU GO TELL THEM

1. Forgiveness is not an emotion.

In fact, forgiveness is usually a conscious faith decision that goes against our emotions. ***“EMOTIONS ARE TERRIBLE LEADERS.”***

2. You are not responsible for their response

You are responsible for your attempt

3. Forgiveness is actually a faith issue

HOW DO WE FIND ENOUGH FORGIVENESS TO GIVE OUT?

Forgiveness is not fair, but it is godly and right.

Look at the cross, stand in it's shadow. No one will do to you what you did to God

4. We forgive because we are forgiven.

Ephesians 1:7 “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.”

GOOD NEWS!

God does not forgive halfway, and humanity often does.

No paybacks, just forgiveness...