

FORGIVENESS – OUR NEED TO BE KNOWN

INTRODUCTION

Forgiveness: the act or process of forgiving or being forgiven.

Forgive: to pardon an offense or an offender; to grant pardon for or remission of.

Greek word – *aphiemi*: to let go, to give up, to keep no longer.

We all need to be forgiven. No one is perfect.

Romans 3:10 NLT *“No one is righteous – not even one.”*

Romans 3:23 NLT *“For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.”*

1. FORGIVENESS COMES WHEN WE PUT OUR TRUST IN JESUS

Romans 3:24-25a; Hebrews 7:27; Hebrews 10:10; Matthew 26:28; Mark 10:45.

Forgiveness is essential to our salvation.

Ephesians 1:7.

Because of God's great mercy we have forgiveness, we have been pardoned and our sins are not held against us.

We need to humble ourselves before God and acknowledge that Jesus' sacrifice has made the way open for us to be forgiven and washed clean.

We are forgiven. We are God's. We are completely holy in his sight.

Galatians 3:13.

The law emphasizes human effort and external behavior, but salvation is given by grace through faith in what Jesus has done.

2. FORGIVENESS BRINGS A SENSE OF AWE TOWARDS GOD

Psalms 130:4.

Our God is a God who forgives. What an awesome God we serve!

1 John 1:9; Exodus 34:6.

He is the God of compassion and mercy.

1 Timothy 6:15.

Not only has Jesus come to earth to be our ransom, but he is also coming back to take us to be with him forever.

Colossians 3:3.

Because God has forgiven us, we also can be merciful, kind, humble, gentle and patient towards others.

Colossians 3:12-15.

3. FORGIVENESS REVEALS GOD'S OMNISCIENCE

God knows everything.

Psalms 139:1-2.

We may think that we can hide behind our masks, or we may think that no one knows what we are doing - we can justify things or hide things - but God knows.

He sees, he knows, and he loves us. God is love, he is forgiving, he is compassionate, and he is kind; we need not fear.

Hebrews 4:14-16.

Having a revelation of God's forgiveness (compassion, mercy and pardon) is what we need in times of intense guilt and condemnation.

In times where we have come to God in repentance and have sought his forgiveness, we need to receive his grace and mercy and experience his love.

The cross is a finished work. It is complete. We are forgiven. There is nothing that the cross did not deal with. When we come to God in repentance and with a surrendered heart, he forgives us and washes us clean.

CONCLUSION

In Luke chapter 1 we read Mary's song, when she was with Elizabeth.

Luke 1:46-47 NLT *"Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!"*

May we be deeply affected by God's love and compassion.

1 Corinthians 6:11.

When God forgives us, we are washed and cleansed, we are made right with God.

May we continue to call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, taking hold of all he has done for us through his death on the cross.