



Part 4: Forgive Us Our Debts

INTRODUCTION

Repeating the Jesus way teaches us to pray creates a muscle memory response in us. The more we are intentional about declaring His greatness and surrendering our will, the more intimacy we will have in our relationship with Him. We gain a deeper understanding of why He gives us what He does and learn how to be content with that measure. But God knows we are not perfect. Therefore, Jesus includes the crucial piece about seeking *and* giving forgiveness so that we might be right with Him and others.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Do you feel like you can be honest with God when you have sinned? Has there ever been a time when you've felt it difficult to ask for forgiveness from Him?
2. Is it difficult or easy to believe you are forgiven by God? By others? Why?
3. In what kind of situations do you find it easier to forgive? What situations are harder? Why do you think that is?
4. Why do you think God requires us to forgive others? If you've ever not forgiven someone else, what kind of feelings still live in you? How do those feelings affect your life?

THIS WEEK

Think about this idea: "To refuse to forgive is a refusal to follow Jesus." In your intentional prayer time, ask God to show you not only who you may not have forgiven, but how you might take a next step toward forgiving them.

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **Give us today our daily bread.** And forgive us our debts, as we also have **forgiven our debtors.**'"

Matthew 6:9-12