

Welcome To
Celebrate Recovery
Forgiveness
(September 1, 2010)

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Celebrate Recovery

Forgiveness

A. Introduction.

B. God's Forgiveness of us.

1. The human condition.

"For the wages (payment) of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus, our Lord". Romans 6:23

2. God doesn't want anybody to go to hell.

"The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise to return, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. HE DOES NOT WANT ANYONE TO PERISH, so He is giving more time for everyone to repent." 2 Peter 3:9

3. Repentance begins and ends with the Gospel.

"We are **made right** in God's sight when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done. For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet now God in His gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins. For God sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to satisfy God's anger against us. **We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed his blood, sacrificing his life for us.** God was being entirely fair and just in this present time when he declares sinners to be right in his sight because they believe in Jesus." Romans 3:22-25

C. Forgiving Others.

1. God commands us to do it.

"Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive **anyone** who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so **you MUST forgive others.**"
Colossians 3:13

2. Steps to forgiveness.

Step 1 - Identify who we need to forgive.

Step 2 - Let go of the pain.

Step 3 Give it to God.

"Give all your **worries and cares** to God, for he cares about what happens to you." 1 Peter 5:7

"Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and **carry heavy burdens**, and I will give you **rest**. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find **rest** for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."
Matthew 11:28-30

3. Prayer

Lord Jesus, I am carrying this heavy burden of forgiving _____. I still feel the pain of what happened. I still grieve. I don't want to forgive them, but I know You want me to do it. So I come to You, and I give You this burden as You have asked me to do in 1 Peter 5:7.

Lord Jesus, You also promise in Matthew 11:28-30 that You will carry my burden and give me rest. I believe You and I trust You. I come to You and ask You to do that. Thank You for hearing my prayer and for doing all of this.

In Your name I pray.
Amen

4. Don't take revenge.

"Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. **Do your part** to live in peace with

everyone, as much as possible. Dear friends, never avenge your selves. Leave that to God. For it is written, 'I will take vengeance; I will repay those who deserve it, says the Lord.' " Romans 12:17-19

D. Forgiving Our Selves

"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the Law of Moses? Jesus replied 'You must love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, all your soul and all your mind'. This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" Matthew 22:36-40