

Christian Forgiveness: Pardon or Probation

2 Corinthians 2:5-11

1. When Should We Forgive?

2. How Should We Forgive?

3. Why Should We Forgive?

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Read 2 Cor 2:5-11. Have you ever found it difficult to forgive someone, even after they repented? How about in a situation where the person was not repentant? Why was it difficult?
2. Have you ever been approached about a potential flaw or sin in your life? How did it feel; how did you react? Do you consider yourself approachable? Why is it important to be approachable?
3. Review 2 Cor 2:8. Why was it so important to Paul that the Corinthians reaffirm their love to the sinner? What are some ways we can 'show our love to be real' to someone we need to forgive?
4. Is it hypocritical to forgive somebody when you don't feel like it?
5. Read Matt 18:15-20. Have you ever held someone accountable, or taken some type of disciplinary action – individually or as a fellowship? What was the outcome?
6. Why is it so important for us to forgive from our hearts? Why is it important for the church body that we forgive? What are some of the risks and consequences of withholding forgiveness?
7. Read 2 Cor 2:11. What are some 'designs' of the Devil? How does Satan work on an individual level, in relationships, and among the church to outwit believers? Why does he do it? How can we avoid his tactics?

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OUR
Weakness,
GOD'S
Strength

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, *The Last Battle*