

## FREEDOM IN FORGIVENESS (Cliff Alger)

**Matthew 6:9–15 (ESV)** — **9** Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. **10** Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **11** Give us this day our daily bread, **12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.** **13** And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. **14** For **IF you forgive** others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will **ALSO** forgive you, **15** but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, **neither will your Father forgive YOUR trespasses.**

We live in a culture today that unfortunately does not **promote** or **encourage forgiveness** as **readily** as it should.

**2 Timothy 3:1–3 (NLT)** — **1** You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be **very difficult times.** **2** For people will **love only themselves** and their **money.** They will be **boastful** and **proud**, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. **3** They will be **unloving** and **UNFORGIVING...**”

### 1) THE FORGIVENESS OF \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 6:12 (ESV)** — **12** and **forgive us** our **debts**...

**Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)** — **16** Let us therefore come **boldly to the throne of grace**, that we may obtain **mercy** and find **grace to help** in time of need.

**1 John 1:9 (ESV)** — **9** If we **confess** our sins, he is **faithful** and just **to forgive us our sins** and to **cleans us from ALL** unrighteousness.

Your Bible says in **Ephesians 2:4** that our God is, **“RICH IN MERCY”** and that HE **“LOVES US WITH A GREAT LOVE!”**

**All throughout the Bible we see that God forgave sinners of all kinds.**

**Psalm 103:10-14** **10** He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. **11** For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; **12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

### 2) THE FORGIVENESS OF \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 6:12 (ESV)** — **12** and forgive us our debts, **as we also have forgiven our debtors.**

Ephesians 4:32 (ESV) — 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.**

QUOTE: **“Wounds are opportunities for LIGHT to ENTER IN”.**

### WHAT FORGIVENESS IS NOT:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ what they did.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ what they did.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ what they did.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ with the other person.
5. \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ what they did.

In **Matthew 18:21** Peter asks Jesus an interesting question, He says, *“Lord, how often will my brother sin against me and I forgive him? As many as **seven times?**”* *“I do not say to you 7 times, but 77 times!”*

**QUESTION:** Are there limits to your forgiveness?

**“FORGIVENESS IS NOT ABOUT KEEPING SCORE, IT’S ABOUT LOSING COUNT”.**

- **Luke 17:4 (NLT) — 4** Even if that person wrongs you **seven times a day** and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, **you MUST forgive.”**

**Matthew 18:27**, “**27** And out of pity for him, the master of that servant **released him** and **forgave him the debt.**”

**Matthew 18:32–35 (ESV) — 32** ‘You wicked servant! **I forgave you ALL THAT DEBT because you pleaded with me.** **33** And **should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’** **34** And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay **all his debt.**

**Then in verse 35 Jesus makes one of the HEAVIEST STATEMENTS IN ALL THE BIBLE as it relates to HOW SERIOUS GOD TAKES UNFORGIVENESS:**

**35** So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, **if you do not forgive your brother from your HEART.”**

**3) FORGIVENESS OF \_\_\_\_\_.**