

Praying in Heaven's Court Day 2

If you were forgiven for your wrongdoings by the same measure that you tend to forgive, would you be worried or relieved? Did you know, the Scriptures tell us that this is exactly what happens in the Courts of Heaven? Thankfully, we serve a God of abundant mercy and grace, who is ready to forgive us the moment we go to Him. In fact, it's through that very grace that we are completely and fully renewed every single day.

The Courts of Heaven follow different rules of fairness than the ones we have come to understand on Earth. When we have done wrong, we receive forgiveness from our Father. In *Matthew 6*, we see that our God is always ready to release forgiveness, but it also reveals that we might be getting in our own way of His mercy.

Matthew 6:12-15 (TPT)

'Forgive us the wrongs we have done as we ourselves release forgiveness to those who have wronged us. Rescue us every time we face tribulation and set us free from evil. For you are the King who rules with power and glory forever. Amen.' "And when you pray, make sure you forgive the faults of others so that your Father in heaven will also forgive you. But if you withhold forgiveness from others, your Father withholds forgiveness from you."

How can withholding forgiveness be the directive of a merciful God? The only conclusion is that it's in our best interest to forgive others. God wants us to be right with Him and right with our neighbors. There are many verses all throughout Scripture that implore Christians to forgive beyond the point when it even makes sense to keep doing so. While we still must set wise boundaries – especially with those who have hurt us – we can keep forgiving because we are continually forgiven by a good God.

Put it in action: This weekend, Pastor Jimmy encouraged us that powerful, transformative prayers can happen in as little as five minutes. Today, set a timer for just five minutes, and walk with God through the following points:

- Start by praying *Psalms 86:1-5*.
- Ask God to reveal to you areas where you need to seek forgiveness.
- Take a look at any notes from yesterday's devotional and begin to forgive anyone whom you had been harboring resentment against.
- Ask God to fill you with HIS love, so that you might freely forgive.
- Receive his forgiveness for yourself.