



Forgive One Another

Selected Scriptures

#8 in a series on the *One Another* Statements

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Theme: **Forgive one another as Christ has forgiven you.**

Defining our terms.

1. “Some nice things forgiving is not.”¹

2. Some wonderful things forgiveness is.

(Psalm 25:18; 32:1-2, 5; 85:2; 103:12; Micah 7:18-20; Matthew 26:28; John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 13:5; 2 Corinthians 2:7, 10; Ephesians 1:7; 4:32; Colossians 1:14; 2:13; 3:13)

God’s forgiveness is His gracious act of pardoning a sinner.

Believers’ forgiveness of each other is their gracious act of pardoning one who has sinned against them.

Forgiving one another as God has forgiven us.

1. A choice to forgive, not a feeling. (Ephesians 4:30-32; Colossians 3:12-13)

2. A free gift, not a reward. (Luke 23:34; John 3:16-17; Romans 6:23)

3. A sincere act, not superficial. (Matthew 18:21-35; Colossians 3:12-13)

4. A full and limitless act, not partial or limited.
(Jeremiah 31:34; Micah 7:19; Matthew 18:21-22)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. *Forgive one another.* One reason for finding forgiving others difficult is because of misconceptions about what forgiveness is. Review any notes you made on the five “nice things forgiving is not. Are you being influenced by any of these misconceptions?

Tuesday. Today let’s think about what forgiveness is. Check the Old Testament Bible references on this point in the outline to see some of the descriptions. One New Testament word sometimes translated *forgive* is based on the word grace and means to give freely or graciously, and so to forgive or pardon. Another one has the basic sense to let go or send away, and so to cancel or pardon. Think again about how God has forgiven you and that you are to forgive others in the same way.

Wednesday. Forgiving others as Christ has forgiven us means it is based on a choice, not a feeling. Are there people you haven’t forgiven because you don’t feel like it, or good about forgiving them? Talk that over with God and move to make the choice to forgive. Forgiveness also is an act of grace, a gift, not a reward for repentance, making things right or anything else. Always remember that forgives is a choice, not a feeling

Thursday. True forgiveness is always sincere, never superficial. True forgiveness also is a full and limitless act, never partial or limited. Make sure you forgive others, all others, as Christ has forgiven you.

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to explore *do not judge one another.* Read and think through Matthew 7:1-4 and Romans 14:1-12 to begin preparing for our time together.