

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6:14-15 (ESV)

Forgiveness

You have said that you want to know me. You have told me that you want to be like me. Is this true? Yes, I want to know you. Yes, I want to be like you. **You want to know my will and walk in my ways. You want to join me in what I am doing. Is this true as well?** Yes, I want to know your will, walk in your ways and join you in what you are doing. **These are very good desires that you have in your heart and on your mind. I have one more question for you.** Go ahead; ask me, I'm listening. **What do you think I'm doing?** That seems like an impossible question. How can I possibly know what you are doing? **I will ask you a different question? What have I done for you?** I could answer that question a thousand different ways. You have done so much for me. However, I think you are looking for one particular answer at this moment. **Yes, I am. Do you have the answer that I am looking for?** I think so. You forgave my sins. Yes, I did. That is exactly the answer I was looking for. **Did I forgive some of your sins or did I forgive you of all your sins?** You forgave me of all my sins. **Yes, that is exactly what I did for you. Once I forgave your sins what were we able to do together?** We were able to live in a relationship with each other. Nothing separated us from each other. There was no longer a wall that divided us from each other. **Yes, that's right.**

Now, I have another question for you. Ask, away. **If you want to be like me and join me in what I am doing what will you do for others?** I see where this conversation is headed. I have some barriers that exist with some people. **Like who?** There are people that have hurt me. I could say that they have sinned against me. I don't really like them. I don't want to be around them. If I never saw them again that would be just fine with me. **Are you still holding on to bitterness towards them? Have you forgiven them of what they have done to you?** I'm still bitter. I'm still hurt. I'm pretty sure that I haven't forgiven them yet. **This is a new day isn't it? You no longer have to carry bitterness and unforgiveness. You can be set free from carrying that heavy burden.** How is that? **Oh, I'm sure that you know the answer to that question.** You want me to forgive others just as you have forgiven me. **Yes, I do. Is that what you want to do? Is that what you will do?** Yes Lord, I will let go of bitterness and unforgiveness. I will forgive others just as you have forgiven me. I will set down the heavy burden that I have been carrying. **That will be very good.**

Heavenly Father, thank you for forgiving me of my sins. Help me to do what you have done. Just as you have forgiven me of the sins I have committed against you so I will forgive everyone who has sinned against me. I will live in and give out your forgiveness. Amen

If *Forgive Men*

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

NIV James 1:26

If *Forgive Others*

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

ESV James 1:26

If *Forgive Those*

"If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

NLT James 1:26

If *Forgive Men*

"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

NKJV James 1:26

If *Forgive Others*

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

NRSV James 1:26

If *Forgiving Others*

"In prayer there is a connection between what God does and what you do. You can't get forgiveness from God, for instance, without also forgiving others. If you refuse to do your part, you cut yourself off from God's part.

MSG James 1:26

If *Forgive People*

For if you forgive people their trespasses [their reckless and willful sins, leaving them, letting them go, and giving up resentment], your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their trespasses [their reckless and willful sins, leaving them, letting them go, and giving up resentment], neither will your Father forgive you your trespasses.

AMP James 1:26

If *Forgive Those*

Your heavenly Father will forgive you if you forgive those who sin against you; but if you refuse to forgive them, he will not forgive you.

TLB James 1:26

If *Forgive Others*

"For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

NASB James 1:26

If *Forgive Others*

Yes, if you forgive others for their sins, your Father in heaven will also forgive you for your sins. But if you don't forgive others, your Father in heaven will not forgive your sins.

NCV James 1:26

Forgive Others

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

If – Matthew 6:14-15

In Context: *Read Matthew 6*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6:14-15 (ESV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

For if | you | forgive others | their trespasses, | your | heavenly Father | will also | forgive you, | but if | you | do not | forgive others | their trespasses, | neither will | your Father | forgive | your trespasses. Matthew 6:14-15 (ESV)

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Heavenly Father, thank you for forgiving me of my sins. Help me to do what you have done. Just as you have forgiven me of the sins I have committed against you so I will forgive everyone who has sinned against me. I will live in and give out your forgiveness. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When have you had a hard time being able to forgive someone that has sinned against you?

Why is it critically important that you forgive others just as you have been forgiven?

When have you suffered as a result of your being unwilling to forgive others?

How thankful are you that your Heavenly Father has graciously forgiven you of all your sins?

How has the forgiveness you have received from your Heavenly Father motivated your desire to forgive others?

When have you experienced the freedom of forgiving all those who have sinned against you?

Who is on the list of people that you will now offer your and complete forgiveness?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Forgive others who have sinned against you just as your Heavenly Father has forgiven your sins against Him.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that your Heavenly Father will forgive all your sins just as you have also forgiven others.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how forgiving others has brought God's healing into your life.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you forgive others of their sins just as your Heavenly Father has forgiven you of your sins.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Heavenly Father, I will forgive others just as you have forgiven me.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Heavenly Father, who do I need to forgive today as I live in your forgiveness?
