



Today's Message

Date: January 17, 2021
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***Forgiven and Forgiving***

Text: Luke 11:1–4 (ESV)

¹ Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” ² And he said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread, ⁴ **and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.** And lead us not into temptation.”

Introduction: The Lord’s Prayer is a model of requests to be offered and a pattern to be followed. Luke’s account of Jesus’ teaching on prayer presents five petitions in proper order of significance: two that give priority to God’s interests and three that express our needs. Today we consider the implications of the fourth petition, “*forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.*” (4). This petition has two parts, a request and an explanation. The two parts present the focus of the prayer and the requisite attitude. From it we learn that . . .

Today’s take-home truth: Followers of Jesus *regularly* seek forgiveness and *always* grant forgiveness.

I. Followers of Jesus regularly seek forgiveness . . .

A. We *need* forgiveness because we continue to sin.

- B. We *obtain* forgiveness simply by asking.
- C. We *are granted* forgiveness from our heavenly Father.
- D. We *receive* forgiveness because Jesus died for us.

A question for reflection:

Since followers of Jesus receive forgiveness when they trust Christ for salvation, why do they need to seek forgiveness continually?

II. and always grant forgiveness.

- A. Forgiveness of others is the requisite attitude of those who pray for their own forgiveness.
- B. Forgiveness of others is not subject to personal limitations.
- C. Forgiveness of others has implications for the community of faith.