

Stay Connected with His Forgiveness

Pastor Jeff Alexander + Pray the Jesus Way + February 18, 2018



When you're deeply connected, you will hurt more deeply.

- *Have you ever been deeply hurt in a close, personal relationship?*
- *Have you ever experienced the healing that comes from giving and receiving forgiveness?*

Some of the hardest words to speak in the English language:

"I am sorry. Please forgive me."

The fifth petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us," is a request for God's help to do what we cannot do alone.

Those who confess faith in Jesus for who He is will also confess to Jesus who they are—sinners in need of forgiveness; debtors in need of debt relief.

As a "debt," our sin against God and others is described as a failed obligation.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- *What's the danger in not admitting your sins to God?*
- *What's the danger in not forgiving others, as God in Christ has forgiven you?*

"Beware! Not the one who offends you but you who refuses to forgive inflicts a harm on you greater than the whole world could do."

Martin Luther

- *What do you do when you feel as if you can't forgive?*

Connected to the Father, Jesus teaches us to receive forgiveness.

Psalms 51:10-12

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Connected to the Father, Jesus teaches us to extend forgiveness.

Luke 23:34

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.