

THE PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. - 1 John 1:9

STEPS FOR RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

Conviction: Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit to know right from wrong.

Confession: Take a complete accounting of the sin.

Ask for Mercy: Surrender your rights and be humble.

Receive: Accept forgiveness as a gift.

Repent: Have a renewed mind.

Reconcile: Restored relationship is now possible.

Pray: Lord, I confess that I (list offenses) and that these offenses are sin against You. I am sorry, and ask that You forgive me from these sins. Amen.

Forgiveness covers an offense. An event or circumstance is the evidence that an offense has been committed. Forgiveness redeems the event by converting the offense.

THE CHOICE TO FORGIVE

Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven." - Luke 6:36-37

STEPS FOR GRANTING FORGIVENESS TO OTHERS

Take an Account: To forgive means to release someone for a specific debt or obligation they owe you.

Acknowledge the Debt: You can't release something you are unwilling to acknowledge, so don't suppress or minimize the offense. Consider what it has cost you. Be angry, yet do not sin.

Accept It: Accept that the one that caused the pain does not have the ability to remove it or to repay the debt.

Find Compassion: It takes mercy to forgive. Consider the person rather than the debt.

Release: Choose to let go all your rights in the past, present and future.

Reconcile: The forgiver is free to establish a redeemed relationship and reconciliation is now possible.

Pray: Lord, I confess that (name) sinned against me with these offenses (list them). I choose, by my own free will, to release (name) from this debt in the past, present and future. As far as I am concerned, (name) owes me nothing in this matter any longer. Amen.

Any time a person sins, authority is transferred to Satan. Any time a sin is forgiven authority is transferred away from Satan.