

THE FORGIVENESS BIBLE STUDY

Definition: *Forgive*-to give up resentment against or the desire to punish; stop being angry with; pardon.

1. First we must look at the basis of forgiveness.
 - a. According to Matthew 26:28 what was it that allowed for the forgiveness of sin? _____.
 - b. According to Ephesians 1:7 how did the forgiveness of sins come to us? _____.
 - c. According to Hebrews 9:22 what is the basis for the forgiveness of sin? _____.
Since we need forgiveness for the breaking of God's law and there must be the shedding of innocent blood in order to bring forgiveness, who is the only person that has ever lived that could shed his innocent blood and be able to forgive sin by it? _____.
In order for our sin to be forgiven by God or for us to forgive other people's sin what is needed? _____.
2. Now we will consider what is necessary on our part in order for sin to be forgiven.
 - a. According to Mark 11:25 what do we need to do so that the Father in heaven will forgive our sins? _____.
 - b. According to Acts 2:38 what are the two things that are mentioned before the forgiveness of sin takes place? _____.
(Note: This baptism is referring to being baptized into the blood of Jesus, or being "born again" [John 3:3], not water baptism.)
 - c. According to 1 John 1:9 what do we need to do in order to have our sins forgiven? _____.
3. Who has the ability to forgive sin?
 - a. According to Matthew 9:6 who has the authority to forgive sin? _____.
 - a. According to Acts 13:38 through whom does the forgiveness of sin come? _____.
 - b. According to 2 Corinthians 2:10 who has the ability to forgive? _____.
4. What do the following verses have to tell us about how we should forgive?
 - a. According to Matthew 18:21-22 how many times should we forgive someone? _____.
 - b. According to Luke 17:3-4 what should we do if someone sins? _____.
What should we do if he continues to sin but comes back and repents and asks for forgiveness? _____.

- c. According to Colossians 3:13 how should we forgive each other? _____
- d. According to Colossians 2:13 what is the condition of someone when Jesus forgives them of their sins and makes them alive in him? _____
- e. According to Ephesians 4:32 what should be our attitude toward one another as we forgive them? _____
- f. According to Luke 23:34 what did Jesus ask of the Father in heaven for the people that had nailed him on the cross and were putting him to death? _____
 What did Jesus say about what these people were doing? _____
 Would you be able to forgive someone who was doing something horrible to you the way Jesus forgave? _____

5. Read the parable of the “unmerciful servant” in Matthew 18:21-35. According to Matthew 18:35 what will be the fate of those who act like the unmerciful servant? _____
 Do you hold unforgiveness toward anyone? _____
 What will be your fate if you fail to forgive? _____
 Notice that when we refuse to forgive, unforgiveness is bound to us and our sins are not forgiven. Who suffers when we refuse to forgive? _____

6. Look at the following verses and see what happens when we chose to forgive.
- a. According to Matthew 6:14-15 what happens to our sins when we chose to forgive others of the sins they have committed against us? _____
 And what happens if we chose **not** to forgive the sins of others that have been committed against us? _____
 - b. Luke 7:36-50 is an account of a sinful woman who came to Jesus and showed how much she loved him by pouring out her expensive perfume on him and kissing his feet. Jesus forgave her of her sins because she was repentant. According to Luke 7:47 what is the result of someone who has been forgiven for much? _____
 Most people don’t know how much they have to be forgiven for. Can you list some things for which you need forgiveness? _____

 Should this cause you to love little or love much? _____

7. Make a list of people you have not forgiven and the things they have done to you. When the list is complete choose whether you will forgive these offenses against you or if you will hang on to them. What happens to you if you hang on to this unforgiveness? _____
 What happens if you choose to forgive? _____

