

# The Lord's Prayer

## SERMON NOTES

Week 4 March 27, 2022

“Forgive... as We Forgive”

Luke 23:32-34; Matthew 6:14, 18:21-35



### I. Why Do I Need to Pray for Forgiveness?

- A. The seven \_\_\_\_\_ sins are the root sins out of which all other sin comes.
- B. Sins of \_\_\_\_\_ are the things we should do but fail to do them.
- C. If you struggle with feelings of \_\_\_\_\_, remember that God wants to forgive you.

### II. Forgive Our Debt, Sin, or Trespasses

- A. The term ‘\_\_\_\_\_’ means owing something to someone else.
- B. The term ‘\_\_\_\_\_’ means to miss the mark.
- C. The term ‘\_\_\_\_\_’ means going on a path you are not meant to embark on.
- D. Debts, trespasses, and sins all intend to speak to our \_\_\_\_\_ of others and of God.

### III. Forgiving Others

- A. Since God has extended extraordinary \_\_\_\_\_ to us, he expects us to be merciful to others.
- B. There are several important things to understand about \_\_\_\_\_:
  - a. Forgiveness is not saying it was okay or condoning what was done.
  - b. Forgiveness is releasing my right of retribution.
  - c. Forgiveness is releasing you from feeling the weight or burden the rest of your life.

### *Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message*

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# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *Mar. 28 – Apr. 2, 2022*

## INTRODUCTION

In this series, we are examining the Lord's Prayer to get a better understanding of its meaning so that when we pray it, we will connect with God like never before. So what does the phrase "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us," actually mean?

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### Monday: Colossians 3:12-14; 1 John 1:8-9

C. S. Lewis once said "I find that when I think I am asking God to forgive me... I am asking Him not to forgive me but to excuse me... Real forgiveness means looking steadily at the sin that is left over without any excuse, after all allowances... that [real forgiveness] we can always have from God if we ask for it." How have you learned to recognize the difference between saying, "It was no big deal" and truly forgiving the part of an action that had no good excuse?

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### Tuesday: Psalm 103:9-13; Isaiah 55:6-9

How does Isaiah's description of the gap between God's mercy and our usual human ways of relating speak to your heart? Sometimes when we read Isaiah's words, or Jesus' teaching about forgiving others, we might think, "Sounds nice - but it would never work." Do you believe God's ways are indeed higher than ours? Do you believe God's way is only utterly naive idealism, or the only real path to peace and good?

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### Wednesday: Matthew 6:12, 14-15; Luke 11:4

Scholar William Barclay wrote: "Of all petitions of the Lord's Prayer this is the most frightening. 'Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors'... It is... quite clear that... if we say, 'I will never forgive so-and-so for what he or she has done to me'... and then take this petition on our lips, we are quite deliberately asking God not to forgive us... To be forgiven we must forgive, and that is a condition of forgiveness which only the power of Christ can enable us to fulfill." Who do you need to forgive?

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### Thursday: Psalm 32:1-7; Luke 18:9-14

The choice is yours. You can continue to carry the burden of your sins, or you can allow the Lord to take it from you and set you free, as he wants to do... The process begins with acknowledgment and sorrow. Do you find it hard to acknowledge to yourself, others or God that certain things you did were wrong?

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### Friday: Matthew 18:21-35, Ephesians 4:31-32

Scholar N. T. Wright wrote, "People who are enslaved to anger and malice may think they are 'free' to 'be themselves,' but they are in bondage. If we are marked out by the Spirit's personal presence living in us, think how sad it makes that Spirit if we behave in ways which don't reflect the life and love of God." Before you scold that server, post that acid Facebook response or yell at your spouse or kids, ask, "Am I being 'kind, compassionate, and forgiving'? Can I picture Jesus acting this way?"

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## MOVING FORWARD

The terms *debts*, *trespasses*, and *sins* all intend to speak to our violation of others and of God. And every one of us struggles with this. This is why Jesus is giving us something to deal with the sin problem so we are not shackled with guilt. But Jesus also wants us to realize that we have offended God and other people. The good news is "we are forgiven." Since God has extended extraordinary mercy to us, he expects us to be merciful to others. This week, think about someone who has wronged you in the past. Then pray "Lord help me to forgive them and help me to let go of this."

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*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) deadly, B) omission, C) guilt. IIA) debt, B) sin, C) trespass IID) violation. IIIA) mercy, B) forgiveness.*