

**G R E A T B I B L E W O R D S**

*Forgiveness*

Introduction: We are studying great Bible words. I thought it would be fitting to talk about forgiveness tonight because we talked about peace this morning. The literal definition of forgiveness is to set aside a debt. Therefore, when we talk about the forgiveness of God we have to recognize that He has paid our debt on the cross. Let's study together...

Discussion:

**I. Our God Forgives**

- A. God forgives us because He loves us (**I John 4:8, Romans 5:8**).
- B. God forgives us because He laments over us (**Genesis 6:5, I Samuel 15:35**).
- C. God forgives us because He longs for us (**John 17:20-21, Isaiah 30:18**).
- D. God forgives us because He leads us (**Matthew 5:23-24, Matthew 18:21-35**).
- E. God forgives us because He listens to us (**Romans 10:9-10, Psalm 32:1**).

**II. Our World Needs Forgiveness**

- A. God knows the power of divine forgiveness (**Psalm 103:1-12, Ephesians 2:8-9**).
- B. God knows the power of human forgiveness (**Matthew 6:14-15, Colossians 3:13-14**).
- C. God knows the power of sin and death (**Psalm 32, Psalm 65, Psalm 86**).
- D. God knows the power of conflict (**Matthew 18:15-35, Galatians 6:1-2**).
- E. God knows the power of grace and mercy (**Romans 3:9-26, Hebrews 4:16**).

**III. Our Role Is To Be Forgivers**

- A. Forgiveness is a hard thing (**Romans 4:7, Matthew 18:15-22**).
- B. Forgiveness is a heart thing (**Ephesians 4:2, Colossians 3:13**).
- C. Forgiveness is a heavenly thing (**Matthew 6:14-15, I John 1:9-10**).
- D. Forgiveness is a hopeful thing (**Matthew 5:10-12, Romans 12:17-21**).
- E. Forgiveness is a humble thing (**Ephesians 4:31, Luke 23:34**).

Conclusion: We can choose to be forgiven and we can choose to live a life of forgiveness. People need to see Christ in you! How would Jesus react to your pain? What should you be doing to show forgiveness to those around you? Are you dealing with the conflict in your life? Have you been forgiven of your sins? Let's share this wonderful word with others!