



Alabama Gulf Coast Christian Academy  
Guest Speaker: Ray Reynolds (Gulf Shores, AL)  
**Thursday, March 14, 2013**

Introduction: Freedom should be enjoyed by anybody, anywhere, at any time. We need to experience the freedom of forgiveness. Let's study about it together.....

Discussion:

**I. What Is Forgiveness?**

*Divine forgiveness (Psalm 103:1-12, John 8:32, Galatians 2:4, 5:1).  
Human forgiveness (Colossians 3:13-14).*

**II. What Happens If We Do Not Forgive?**

*Sin Will Affect Our Relationships*

- ◆ What had God done for David? (Psalm 32:1-2)
- ◆ What had David done against God? (Psalm 32:3-7)
- ◆ What had David decided to change? (Psalm 32:8-11)
- ◆ What else did David say in Psalm 65:3, Psalm 86:5?

*Conflict Will Affect Our Relationships*

- ◆ We can choose ignorance (Judges 17:6, Romans 3:9-26).
- ◆ We can choose bitterness (Ephesians 4:31-32, Hebrews 10:30, Hebrews 12:14-15).
- ◆ We can choose forgiveness (Matthew 6:14-15, Matthew 18:21-35, Colossians 3:12-13).
- ◆ We can choose repentance (Matthew 18:21-35, Isaiah 1:18, Ezekiel 36:25, I John 1:8-9).

*Mercy Will Affect Our Relationships*

- ◆ Rediscover the person's humanity (Romans 3:9-26).
- ◆ Surrender the desire for vengeance (Hebrews 10:19-39).
- ◆ Empower others with your great example (Luke 5:17-26).

*Change Will Affect Our Relationships*

- ◆ Don't forgive someone too quickly (Matthew 18:21-35).
- ◆ Don't forgive someone too late (Matthew 5:23-24).
- ◆ Don't forgive someone based on their repentance (Luke 23:34).
- ◆ Don't forget that forgiveness is a process (Matthew 6:14-15).

**III. What Did Jesus Say About Forgiveness?**

*Forgiveness is a "Hard" Thing*

- ◆ The Lord's scenario (Matthew 18:15-20, Matthew 5:23-24).
- ◆ The Lord's example (Matthew 18:21-22, Amos 1-2).

*Forgiveness is a "Heart" Thing*

- ◆ A heart that is patient (Matthew 18:26,29).
- ◆ A heart that is passionate (Matthew 18:27).

*Forgiveness is a "Heavenly" Thing*

- ◆ Jesus had heavenly experience (Hebrews 12:2, I Peter 2:21-23).
- ◆ See the offence as an opportunity (Matthew 5:10-12, Romans 12:17-21).
- ◆ Go out of your way to get along (Matthew 5:38-42, Romans 14:19).
- ◆ Pray for the one that has hurt you or is hurting you (Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 23:34).

Conclusion: William Gaynor, former mayor of NY, was denounced, shot and almost killed by an assailant. While recovering in the hospital he was heard to say, "Every night I forgive everyone of everything." How would you like to slip into eternity with a bitter attitude or unresolved pain (Matthew 6:12-16)? What example do we have in Jesus? What has the Lord done for us?