

The Lord's Prayer: Praying With Confidence

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors”

The Lord's Prayer gives us pictures of what it means to be a Christian. Consider the following:

A Christian has a new identity as a child of God. *Our Father.*

A Christian has new desires. *Hallowed be your name.*

A Christian has a new citizenship. *Your kingdom come.*

A Christian has a new purpose. *Your will be done.*

A Christian openly acknowledges His dependence upon God. *Give us this day our daily bread.*

The Christian is a forgiven debtor who chooses to forgive others.

This prayer comes out of the gospel. Forgiveness from our Heavenly Father is through the person of Jesus Christ. The gospel offers us a way to be right with God. Not only have we sinned but we have the hope of forgiveness. Forgiveness is available to us through Jesus.

This is amazing considering our depth of sin, the amount of sin and our frequency of sin. God's grace is greater than all of our sin. ***There is more mercy in Jesus than there is sin in us.***

Moving toward becoming like Christ means becoming a forgiving person.

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13

For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.
Hebrews 8:12, See also, Jeremiah 31:34, Isaiah 43:25.

Forgiveness has two parts. The act of forgiveness. The choice to not remember.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. 2 Cor 5:19

It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 1 Cor 13:5

The Christian life is a life of continual repentance.

The Christian life is also a life of continual forgiveness.

You get to do for others what God has done for you.

Christians are forgiven and forgiving.