Forgiven To Forgive

Ken Chapman · Colossians 3:12–13

INTRODUCTION

- Spiritually, God intends for the gifts that He has given to us to be shared with others. And that is certainly true when it comes to forgiveness.
- That we are to be forgiven in order to forgive.
- Not only am I to forgive my fellow man because God has forgiven me, but I am to forgive my fellow man in the manner in which God has forgiven me.

1 God Forgives Willingly

James 1:18

- One way that God forgives is that he forgives willingly.
- Of His own will, He brought us forth by the Word of truth that we might be a kind of first fruits of His creatures.
- That's a biblical way of saying, because He wanted to. Another way of saying it was His idea.
- It's not just that nobody made God do this, but it's also that God conceived, God wanted to do this. He came up with the idea of sending his son.

2 God Forgives Fully

Micah 7:19; Psalm 103:12

- I'm going to cast your sins into the depth of the ocean.
- God says, that's where I'm going to put your sin. Where you can't get to them. They're gone.
- As far as the east is from the west, that's how I've separated you from your sin.
- And God didn't just forgive him. God made him an apostle.

3 God Forgives Repeatedly

Romans 5:12–20

- Even so through one man's righteous act, the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification.
- But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more. God forgives repeatedly.
- I've lost track of how many times he's forgiven me. Over and over again.
- That's the God we serve. That's the God we love. Because He forgives willingly, fully, and repeatedly.

4 I'm to Forgive Willingly

Colossians 3:13; Mark 11:25

- I'm to forgive willingly. This is not a scenario repeated from your childhood where your mom says, go tell your brother you're sorry.
- Of his own will, he sent his son. That requires a change of heart. That requires us to be like God.

- Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.
- Why do I forgive? Because I've been forgiven. Why do I forgive? Because I want to be forgiven.

5 I Should Forgive Fully

Matthew 18:15

- I should forgive fully. If I really want to be like God.
- True forgiveness doesn't hold grudges.
- If he hears you have gained your brother. It says brother. That's the idea of a full restoration of a relationship.

6 I Am to Forgive Repeatedly

Matthew 18:21–22

- Like God forgives me repeatedly, I am to forgive you repeatedly.
- God is more gracious. And I'm striving to be.
- You are to forgive. That ain't easy. But nobody ever said being like God was. But it's worth it.
- And it may take me 490 times to get over it and to forgive you fully. But I want to be like God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Would you come to Him this morning to a gracious God? He is so eager to forgive you.**

MY NOTES