From Forgiveness to Blessing
Session 2A
© Dallas Willard Ministries

~Moving From Forgiveness to BEING Forgiven~

What's required for being forgiven is to just honestly _____.

- Luke 18:9-14 What really hurts us is trusting in ourselves that we are righteous.

We live in a Trinitarian universe. The ultimate reality is a community of persons so inseparable that they're just one. The nature of this One, God, is to give when He's asked.

We must put forgiving in the larger context of giving. God is a _____ God. He just gives and he teaches us to be the same way.

- Luke 6:38 – *Give and it shall be given unto you…*
- We have the wrong idea because we misunderstand the nature of God and reality.
- Giving is good practice for forgiving.
- To give means 'turn it loose.'
- James 1:5 - *If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God who gives to all men liberally…*
- The problem with the Pharisee is that they always try to engineer something. They think they have to impress God, that somehow there's a catch. The only catch is, just ask.
- James 4:2 - …*You have not because you ask not.*
- Matthew 7:7 - *Ask and it shall be given, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be open.*
- Don't give up!

God's street address is at the end of your rope. Wherever your rope runs out, that's where God is.

On the cross this wonderful God-man, Jesus Christ, died for us. And because of that event, all one has to do is say, God, forgive me. The main thing is honesty!

_____ allows the work of restoration to begin.

- The transaction of forgiveness requires both sides – if that is to be completed and the healing is to begin, both sides must be involved.
- Psalm 51
- John 4:24 God is looking for people to be just exactly what they are before him including whatever they may have done wrong.
- Confession means we come before God at that level and then we come before one another at that level. The healing we need corrects all our relationships and allows us to be honest, open, translucent before others.
- Confession is the condition under which we begin to open up to healing in all its dimensions.
- You cannot come before God without clearing the decks and that involves relationships to others as well. Until we own up to it, in an appropriate way, then the healing can begin.

From Forgiveness to Blessing
Session 2A
© Dallas Willard Ministries

~From Being Forgiven to Being Forgiving~

Until we have come to the place where we are forgiving as we are _____, we really haven't got the _____.

- When we enter into forgiveness we enter with our whole lives.
- Jesus teaches this in Matthew 6- Luke 11 -relates it to forgiveness.
- Forgiveness is not something that we just receive.
- Lord's Prayer – forgive us AS we forgive others.

Mark 11:22-23 "Let the faith of God be in you!"

- …the picture of a whole life involved in a way of acting in what God is doing.
- Jesus never moved a mountain by prayer. This is Jesus' way of saying, **"If it's _____, there is _____ that cannot be done through prayer."**

Mark 11:25- Ties prayer to forgiveness. Many times, prayer is hindered for a lack of engagement of the will with what God is doing and God's way of doing things.

- When we pray, we are involved with God's action, and to be involved in God's action we have to be totally free of unforgiveness because He's not in the business of unforgiveness.
- Sometimes he will say to an individual, "thy will be done" and leaves them up to their own will.
- God is in the business of forgiveness.
- Mark 11:26 // Matthew 18:21-22

Parables of the Kingdom of Heavens are stories meant to illustrate how things work in the Kingdom of the Heavens. How does God deal with people?

- Matthew 18:21-35 …shows the **generosity** of God in forgiving.
- The key to the forgiving was **compassion**. He had compassion upon him.
- In this case **mercy** was appropriate and mercy triumphed over the debt that was to be paid.

Being in the flow of forgiveness:

- Step into it by confession – then we're part of a larger whole that carries us into forgiveness.
- If we have received forgiveness with that clarity of mind, we will immediately understand that forgiveness is for us to give to others.
- **If we have been forgiven, we will _____.**
    - If we don't understand being forgiven, we'll be deprived of the blessing of passing that forgiveness to others.
    - And we will not learn to live in an ambiance of forgiveness.

We don't have to be _____ at people for a while before we _____ them.
We can live in an ambiance of forgiveness that takes care of things when they come up.
You can simply learn not to take the burden up! Just drop it when it hits you.