

Beyond Sunday

A Sermon Application Guide

The Forgiven Forgive

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Our hope is that the living, breathing words of truth that are revealed to you become a part of your everyday life. In the book of James, we read about a key to living life with God. We are told that if we ask for wisdom by faith then we shall receive it generously from our Father in Heaven. One of the best ways to receive this wisdom is by preparing to receive it. We invite you to pray this prayer prior to the message and starting the study guide:

“God, thank You for Your truth and wisdom. Help me to see what I need to see, hear what I need to hear, and know what I need to know. Holy Spirit, help me to understand in a way that shows me the Father’s true nature and heart. May this time help me to know You more and become more like Jesus. Amen.”

Message Theme

Forgiving the same way that we are forgiven by God.

Key Concepts/Truths

Jesus never lost sight of where He was heading to. He fixed His sight on the glory before Him.

We are called to fix our eyes upon Jesus in this same way.

Jesus experienced everything that we as humans experience and in the face of it all displayed forgiveness while on the cross.

At many points in life people will let us down.

Forgiveness is a decision and not a feeling.

A major hindrance in our faith is caused by not forgiving others.

God's grace and forgiveness towards us enables us to forgive others

Key Verses - Hebrews 12:2,15 • Mark 11:25 • Ephesians 4:26-27 • Matthew 5:43-44

Which one truth do you already have evidence of in your life today? Ask the Lord for new ways to see even more of it for you and others around you. Write your answers out.

Which one truth is the most challenging or least existing in your life today? Why do you think this is? Ask the Lord if there are any beliefs or barriers that are keeping you from believing that particular truth. Write it out.

Real-Life Applications

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

Unforgiveness grows like a weed in the garden of your heart. It will hinder what God is growing in you and allow the enemy into your life.

We are called to forgive seventy times seven, but we cannot do so in our own strength. With Jesus as our example and the Holy Spirit as our Helper, we are able to show more love, patience, kindness, and peace than we ever could on our own. When we are wronged, we do not respond the way the world does but the way that Jesus does.

Forgiveness is an attitude of the heart. We do not often feel like forgiving someone, but God asks that we show His love even when we do not feel like it. When we choose to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit over our own anger, we can overcome evil with good.

In what ways can we align our heart with the Holy Spirit this week?

What are some indicators that we have room to grow in forgiveness? If we can't see love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control towards certain individuals then we may have an opportunity to grow in this area.

This Week's Declarations

Life is released when your words are in agreement with God. Intentionally speaking life and biblical truth out loud is extremely powerful. In fact, you have that very life in the power of your tongue. These words below, when spoken out loud, will cause an acceleration of the reality of God's words in your life. We encourage you to speak the following with an expectancy to renew your mind and see God's fullness.

When I confess my sins, God is faithful to forgive me.

I am called to forgive others as Christ forgave me.

I leave no foothold for the devil because I choose to be quick to forgive.

Whenever I pray I forgive ANYONE who has done ANYTHING against me.

God's power is at work in me.

God's grace empowers me to do what I could never do on my own.

I am commissioned with the power of God to show his love to the world around me.

What's Next?

Now it's time to write down anything that the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, thank Him, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture References The Forgiven Forgive

Hebrews 12:2 NIV

fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Romans 8:34 NKJV

who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Hebrews 12:1-3 MSG

...It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

Luke 23:34 NKJV

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

Mark 11:25-26 NKJV

“And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”

Ephesians 4:26-27 NKJV

“Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.

1 Samuel 18:7-10 NKJV

So the women sang as they danced, and said: “Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands.” 8 Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, “They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?” 9 So Saul eyed David from that day forward. 10 And it happened on the next day that the distressing spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied inside the house. So David played music with his hand, as at other times; but there was a spear in Saul’s hand.

Luke 17:3-5 NKJV

Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. 4 And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, ‘I repent,’ you shall forgive him.” And the apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.”

Hebrews 12:15 TNT

See to it that no one falls away from God's grace, that no bitterness springs up to cause trouble or spoil everybody's life.

Ecclesiastes 7:9 NKJV

Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, For anger rests in the bosom of fools.

Philippians 3:13 NKJV

... but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

Hebrews 12:15 KJV

...lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby the many be defiled;

1 Peter 2:19-22 NKJV

For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. 21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”;

Luke 23:34 NKJV

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

Romans 12:17-21 NKJV

Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 5:43-44 NKJV

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

Romans 12:14 NKJV

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Matthew 10:8 NKJV

...Freely you have received, freely give.