

“Relentless Faith in God 4”

Series Part 4

February 23, 2025

Scripture Text: Matthew 6:12 NMB *“And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us.”*

Each Sunday, as part of our worship and prayer to the Lord, we ask Him for forgiveness because we do not want to restrict His blessing. We find it much easier to ask Him, whom we have not seen, but when it comes to asking another person, we recoil for fear of rejection or humiliation. It seems easier to ask the Lord because we don't have to look into His eyes and see the hurt that we have caused.

We must contend all the days of our lives with the fact that in our human nature, there is little value. **Romans 7:18 NASB:** *“For I know that good does not dwell in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of good is not.”*

There is an internal struggle within our flesh between our desire to do good and our inability to do what pleases God and bring Him glory. The spirit may be willing, but the flesh must yield to carry it out!

Living to satisfy all the needs of our flesh separates us from the things of God. We live in a world and community geared to satisfying our earthly desires that have no eternal value! Self-reliant individuals will have a tough time trying to please God. **Romans 8:7-8 NASB** *“because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God, for it does not subject itself to the law of God, For it is not even able to do so, 8. and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”*

We forget that... *“He was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; with his stripes, we are healed.”* {Isaiah 53:5}

It's not unusual for an individual to accept forgiveness, even if their pride prevents them from asking to beg their pardon. They want to forget and want you to forget likewise. Even if they act as if nothing ever happened, treat you better, and never say, *“I'm sorry... will you forgive me?”* You must forgive them even if they never acknowledge their trespass. This act of grace is for your benefit... forgiving those who trespass against you. This helps to make our hearts pure. *“Blessed are the pure in heart; they shall see God.”* {Matthew 5:8}

Choose to guard your heart against the offenses of others *as you walk in the Spirit* to produce the fruit of the Spirit... Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control!

The goal is to live in forgiveness of our sins and not live being condemned because of our prideful sins.

Matthew 6:14-15 NKJV *“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 **But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**”*

Applications:

We identify with God through His forgiveness of our sins.

We demonstrate His loving kindness toward others when they trespass.