

FORGIVING WHAT YOU WANT TO FORGET

Loved & Forgiven #3
Pastor Dennis Clanton
Woodland Church
Sunday, April 18, 2021

“Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one. “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”
(Matthew 6:9–15, NLT)

There is a difference between not remembering against and forgetting.

1. I am responsible for how I respond to offence.

“Forgive us for our sins, just as we have forgiven those who sinned against us.” (Matthew 6:12, NCV)

- a. I refuse to bring up the offence to him or her.
- b. I refuse to bring it the offence to others.
- c. I refuse to brood over it to myself.

“It is foolish to harbor a grudge.” (Ecclesiastes 7:9, GN)

2. I must allow God to change me.

*“Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, **throw off** your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. **Put on** your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.”* (Ephesians 4:21–24, NLT)

“And don’t sin by letting anger control you.” (Ephesians 4:26, NLT)

“Get rid of all bitterness” (Ephesians 4:31, GN)

3. I will repay evil with good.

“Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. Don’t repay evil for evil. Don’t retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing.” (1 Peter 3:8–9, NLT)

Eight Actions of a Passionate Follower of Christ

1. Be in harmony.
2. Give sympathy.
3. Love.
4. Be tenderhearted.
5. Live in humility.
6. Do not repay evil with evil.
7. Don’t retaliate with insults.
8. Speak a blessing.