

“For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised” (2 Cor. 5:14-15).

Forgive As I Have Been Forgiven

WEEK ONE

KEY SCRIPTURE:

A verse to memorize and meditate on this week

“Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working” (JAMES 5:16).

TAKING IT FURTHER:

A section of Scripture to ponder in depth

“When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, ‘It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.’ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, ‘Your father gave this command before he died: “Say to Joseph, ‘Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.”’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.’ Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, ‘Behold, we are your servants.’ But Joseph said to them, ‘Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.’ Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them” (GEN. 50:15-21).

QUESTIONS:

Considerations to renew your mind and move you to action

1. What stands out in this Scripture when you first read it?
2. Are there things in this Scripture that remind you of what God in Christ Jesus has done for you or who He has made you to be?
3. What does this Scripture teach us about God’s will in regard to the habit we are focusing on this month?

4. What is God calling you to repent of and change in your life?

5. How can you put into action what God has taught you?

HOW I WILL:

Ways to practice this discipline

- Write down one sin you have committed, and then confess that sin to the one you sinned against.
- Pray for unity with someone who has frustrated you at church.

This week do one of the above or a similar action that fits your context.

PRAYER:

Words to turn your heart to God and ask for His blessing

O holy and most merciful God, all Your ways are perfect and good. We ask You to make us, Your people, know and believe this always. According to Your promises, give us every blessing of body and soul as we seek first Your kingdom. Help us daily to live in the newness of life we have received through Your Holy Spirit in our Baptism. Since we have been connected to Jesus’ lifegiving death and resurrection in those waters, grant us each day to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

“What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you” (PHIL. 4:9).