

Bible Study Questions

As We Forgive Others

Matthew 6:5-15

7-13-2022

1. What memories or impressions come to mind as you read the Lord's Prayer-memories from childhood or from worship experiences involving the prayer?
2. According to verses 5-8, what "games" do some people play with prayer?
3. What was Jesus trying to show us about our daily needs by incorporating a request for forgiveness in this model prayer?
4. Some readers of the prayer have concluded that God's forgiveness is earned by our own forgiveness of others. Other readers believe that our forgiveness of other people is the evidence that God has forgiven us. Explain why you agree or disagree with each view.
5. If we refuse to forgive another person, what do Jesus' words force us to conclude about ourselves (vv. 14-15)?
6. What reasons have you used (or could you use) to resist forgiving another person?

How would you counsel another Christian who came to you with those same reasons for not forgiving someone else?

7. Should forgiveness excuse the other person from the consequences of their actions? Explain your answer.

8. The final requests in the prayer are “lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one” (v. 13). What temptation from the evil one might we experience right after we pray for the courage to forgive someone?

9. Why does Jesus make forgiveness such a crucial issue for his followers?

10. What specific things can we as Christians do to demonstrate to our society that we are a forgiving community?