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1. **What is forgiveness?**

**Aphiemi (G: 863)** which means to let go, leave, let be, not allow to hinder, neglect, give up a debt, keep no longer, or to lay aside.

**Note:** **you can only lay aside the things that you can identify.**

**“Forgiving” (the process) comes from Charizomai (G: 5483)** which is to do something pleasant (towards others); to do a favor (something not required), give freely, show kindness, show one’s self gracious towards another.

**Nasa (H: 5375)** which means to carry, bear up, to lift, support, assist (restore)

1. **Who grants us forgiveness and what is the purpose behind the forgiveness HE has given?**

GOD grants us forgiveness to obtain our reverence (fear) (Psalms 130:4) and also to validate granting us HIS mercies (compassion) (Daniel 9:9).

Forgiveness is also purposed to be our form of godliness to others in spite of the sins they perform against us (Daniel 9:9).

1. **What is the biblical purpose of forgiveness?**

To let go or restore one from sin (Ex. 10:17; 32:32; Luke 5:20; Acts 13:38; 26:18)

1. **What does forgiveness do for us?**

Forgiveness separates us from our flesh and spiritually joins us to Christ and opens the gates to our ability to obtain eternal life (Colossians 2:13-15).

1. **How does GOD grant us forgiveness?**

Through HIS grace (Charis: divine influence) (Ephesians 1:7) that is given to us due to the blood (Haima) of Christ (relationship) that was shed for us (Colossians 1:14)

1. **How do we ask GOD for forgiveness?**
2. By praying to GOD with faith (Pistis: conviction) (James 5:15).
3. Confessing our sins to GOD (1 John 1:9).
4. Operating in GOD’s character (Onoma: name) (1 John 2:12)
5. **What makes GOD’s forgiveness effective in our lives?**

What makes GOD’s forgiveness effective in our lives is when we also have the ability to forgive ourselves. Without self-forgiveness, GOD”s forgiveness will not have the ability to do an effective work within us.

1. **Is there any sin that GOD does not forgive us for?**

GOD does not forgive us for blasphemy (speak evil of, revile, abusive, slander) against the Holy Spirit resulting in one’s eternal damnation (separation) from GOD (Mark 3:29)

1. **How does one become effective in the use of forgiveness towards others?**
2. One must identify the issue/fault/sin and bring it to the attention committing the act (Matthew 18:15-17).

**Note that in some cases, individuals can’t fix what they are unaware is broken or in error on their part.**

Our order of handling this type of business is to:

1. Bring the issue to the individual only.
2. If they will not listen, re-address it with witnesses.
3. If they will not listen at this point, bring it to the body of Christ (church/congregation).
4. If they will not listen at this point, we forgive within ourselves 9the godly thing to do) but, we separate from further association with them due to the sinfulness in nature.
5. One must not place any limit on how often they forgive an individual because the act of forgiveness is a process for perfecting (maturing in Christ) both individuals (Matthew 18:21-22).
6. Why **should we practice forgiveness towards others?**

We practice forgiveness towards others in order to be granted GOD’s forgiveness towards us! (Matthew 6:14-15).

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