



Faith That Forgives



Explore how trusting God empowers us to forgive others fully, drawing strength from Matthew 18 and beyond.



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Introduction

Faith and forgiveness are deeply intertwined in the Christian journey. In this 7-day study, we will discover how trusting in God *enables us to release others* from the bonds of past hurts and offenses, echoing the powerful teaching of **Matthew 18**. Forgiveness isn't always easy—it challenges our natural desire for justice or even revenge. But when our faith is rooted in God's love and grace, we find the supernatural strength to forgive, heal, and restore relationships.

Matthew 18 highlights Jesus' teaching on forgiveness and community restoration, emphasizing that faith in God's mercy leads us to forgive others as He forgives us. As we journey through these seven days, we'll reflect on key scriptural truths about faith and forgiving others, practical encouragement for extending grace, and the freedom that comes from living in forgiveness.

Whether you're wrestling with a particular offense or seeking to deepen your spiritual walk, this plan will guide you to embrace a faith that forgives—a faith that transforms hearts and mends broken relationships. **Let's open our hearts, lean into God's word, and invite His Spirit to heal and empower us.** 





Day 1: Trusting God's Mercy



Day 1:  Trusting God's Mercy

Your Verse

Matthew 18:21-22 NIV "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*
- *Psalms 103:12 "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."*



Devotional: Embracing God's Infinite Mercy

Today, we begin by looking at the boundless mercy of God and how it shapes **our ability to forgive**. Peter's question in Matthew 18:21 shows a common human limit—we often count forgiveness, hoping to set boundaries on how much we give. But Jesus shatters that notion; forgiveness is not about numbers but about reflecting God's infinite mercy.

When we *trust in God's mercy*, we realize forgiveness is less about managing offenses than about embracing the grace God has lavished on us. Holding onto grudges drains our spirit, but faith in God's compassionate love frees us to forgive repeatedly.

Let us accept the invitation to forgive “seventy-seven times,” an image of unlimited generosity. This faith that forgives begins with God's mercy working in us—it's the foundation for releasing others and healing ourselves.



Reflect and Apply

1. How have you experienced God's mercy in your life recently?

2. What limits do you tend to place on forgiving others, and why?

3. How might trusting God's endless mercy help you forgive more freely?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time when God's mercy surprised you.

2. List barriers you face when forgiving someone and pray over them.

3. Reflect on what 'forgiving seventy-seven times' means personally to you.



Day 1: 📖 Trusting God's Mercy

Prayer for Today

Dear Lord, thank You for showing me endless mercy even when I fall short. Help me to trust in Your grace and forgive others as freely as You forgive me. Teach me to release bitterness and embrace forgiveness daily. *Fill my heart with Your love and compassion so that I may reflect Your mercy to those around me.* In Jesus' name, amen. 🙏❤️🌿





Day 2: 💡 Faith that Sees Beyond Offense



Day 2: 💡 Faith that Sees Beyond Offense

Your Verse

Hebrews 11:1 NIV "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Supporting Scriptures

- *2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we live by faith, not by sight."*
- *Romans 12:17 "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone."*



Day 2: 💡 Faith that Sees Beyond Offense

Devotional: Choosing Faith Over Feelings

Faith enables us to see beyond the immediate sting of offense. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as confidence and assurance in unseen realities. When we are wronged, our natural response is often guided by what we can sense—the hurt, the betrayal, the injustice. But faith calls us to look beyond these feelings and trust in God’s broader perspective.

Forgiving others requires a faith that believes in restoration and God’s justice, even when we cannot immediately perceive it. This faith frees us from the desire to retaliate or hold grudges and instead invites us to act with grace and kindness, trusting that God will work all things for good.

Choosing forgiveness is often a decision of faith rather than feelings. It’s a step into trusting God’s unseen work in hearts and relationships. When we exercise this faith, we become agents of healing and peace.



Day 2: 💡 Faith that Sees Beyond Offense

Reflect and Apply

1. What unseen realities do you find hard to trust when hurt by others?

2. How does faith help you respond differently to offense?

3. In what ways can you lean into God's perspective rather than your own?



Journaling Prompts

1. Describe a situation where faith helped you forgive despite emotional pain.

2. List practical ways to cultivate faith when forgiveness feels impossible.

3. Write a prayer asking God to widen your vision beyond hurt.



Day 2: 💡 Faith that Sees Beyond Offense

Prayer for Today

Father, help me to walk by faith, not by what I see or feel. When I am hurt, remind me that You are working in ways I cannot yet understand. Strengthen my confidence in Your justice and restoration. *Teach me to forgive as You forgive, even when it's hard to see the way forward.* In Jesus' name, amen. 🙏





Day 3: Freedom Through Forgiveness



Your Verse

Matthew 18:35 NIV "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Colossians 3:13 "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."*
- *Psalms 34:18 "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."*



Day 3: 🌿 Freedom Through Forgiveness

Devotional: Forgiveness: A Path to Freedom

Forgiveness is not only a command but a path to freedom. Matthew 18:35 reveals the serious call to forgive from the heart, emphasizing sincerity. When we withhold forgiveness, we trap ourselves in bitterness and pain—a burden God never intended for us.

By trusting God and obeying His word to forgive, we release that burden and open ourselves to His healing presence. Although forgiving can feel like surrendering our rights, it is actually claiming freedom from past wounds.

God, who draws near to the brokenhearted, offers comfort and restoration. Our faith assures us that forgiveness brings peace, healing damaged hearts, and renewing our relationships with God and others.



Reflect and Apply

1. Have you held onto bitterness that weighs you down?

2. What would change in your heart if you forgave sincerely today?

3. How does God comfort you when you feel brokenhearted?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a burden that forgiveness could release from your life.

2. Describe what freedom in forgiveness feels like or could feel like.

3. Pray for God's healing touch on any broken areas in your heart.



Day 3: 🌿 Freedom Through Forgiveness

Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for drawing close to my broken heart. Teach me to forgive from the depths of my soul so I may be free from the chains of bitterness. Replace my pain with Your peace and heal the wounds only You can touch. *Help me forgive as You have forgiven me, with a sincere and loving heart.* In Jesus' name, amen. 🌟❤️👉





Day 4: Extending Grace to Others



Day 4: 🧡 Extending Grace to Others

Your Verse

Luke 6:37 NIV "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

Supporting Scriptures

- *James 2:13 "Mercy triumphs over judgment."*
- *Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*



Day 4: 🧡 Extending Grace to Others

Devotional: Forgive and Grace Will Flow

Faith that forgives expresses itself through grace. Luke 6:37 reminds us that withholding forgiveness often relates to judgment and condemnation. When we truly grasp the depth of God's grace toward us—His love demonstrated in Christ's sacrifice—it changes how we treat others.

Extending grace means choosing compassion over judgment, understanding rather than condemnation. It's acknowledging that we all fall short and need forgiveness daily. Grace flows freely when rooted in faith, because it trusts God's heart and justice rather than our own limited perspective.

As we extend grace, we mirror God's love to the world and open the door for reconciliation and healing. Forgiveness becomes a powerful testimony of His transforming power in us.



Reflect and Apply

1. In what ways do you struggle to extend grace to others?

2. How does God's grace toward you impact your forgiveness of others?

3. What could change in your relationships if you forgave without judgment?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a person you find hard to extend grace to and why.

2. Reflect on the connection between God's grace and your forgiveness.

3. Pray asking God for the heart to forgive without conditions.



Day 4: 🧡 Extending Grace to Others

Prayer for Today

Gracious Father, Your mercy toward me is endless. Help me to extend that same grace to those who have wronged me. Remind me that forgiveness is not about earning kindness but about reflecting Your love. *May my heart overflow with compassion, and may Your grace flow through me to others.* In Jesus' name, amen. 🙌💖🌸





Day 5: 🕊️ Healing Through Reconciliation



Your Verse

Matthew 18:15 NIV "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen, you have won them over."

Supporting Scriptures

- *2 Corinthians 5:18 "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation."*
- *Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."*



Devotional: Pursuing Peace with Faith

Faith empowers not just forgiveness but active reconciliation. Matthew 18 gives us a divine framework for restoring relationships gently and privately. Forgiveness is the foundation, but God calls us to pursue peace and restoration whenever possible.

Reconciliation doesn't mean ignoring hurt or pretending everything is fine. Rather, it's stepping out in faith, addressing conflicts with humility and truth, and leaving the outcome in God's hands. We become instruments of His peace and reconciliation, just as He reconciled us to Himself through Christ.

Living at peace with others is not always easy, but with God's help, it's a glorious witness to His kingdom and a testimony of faith that forgives and restores.



Reflect and Apply

1. Are there broken relationships God might be calling you to reconcile?

2. What fears or barriers hold you back from pursuing reconciliation?

3. How can you act in faith to promote peace in difficult situations?



Journaling Prompts

1. Journal about a relationship needing restoration and how you might take a first step.

2. Reflect on God's role in reconciliation in your life.

3. Pray for courage and wisdom to pursue peace where possible.



Day 5: 🕊️ Healing Through Reconciliation

Prayer for Today

Lord of Peace, thank You for reconciling me to Yourself and calling me to be an agent of reconciliation. Give me the courage to seek peace and restore relationships. When I am afraid or uncertain, remind me that You go before me. *Help me walk in humility and faith, trusting You with every outcome.* In Jesus' name, amen. 🌿💛💙





Day 6: 🔥 Strengthened by Faith in Trials



Day 6: 🔥 Strengthened by Faith in Trials

Your Verse

James 1:2-4 NIV "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him."*
- *1 Peter 5:10 "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong."*



Day 6: 🔥 Strengthened by Faith in Trials

Devotional: Faith Strengthened by Trials

Faith that forgives is often tested in trials. James reminds us that hardships refine our faith and develop perseverance. When offenses happen, our faith is challenged; we might feel justified in anger or unforgiveness. But faith strengthened by trials empowers us to forgive and respond with grace.

God promises to work all things for good—even painful experiences and broken relationships. He restores and strengthens us after suffering, equipping us to walk forward in forgiveness and peace.

In the fire of trials, faith deepens, teaching us that forgiveness is not a weakness but a powerful testimony of God's sustaining grace.



Day 6: 🔥 Strengthened by Faith in Trials

Reflect and Apply

1. How have trials tested your ability to forgive?

2. What has God taught you through painful experiences about faith?

3. How can you rely on God's strength to forgive when hurt deeply?



Day 6: 🔥 Strengthened by Faith in Trials

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a trial where God strengthened your faith to forgive.

2. List ways God has worked good through your hardships.

3. Pray for increased perseverance and grace in difficult times.



Day 6: 🔥 Strengthened by Faith in Trials

Prayer for Today

Mighty God, thank You that You strengthen my faith through trials. When I'm tempted to hold grudges or bitterness, remind me that You are working all things for my good. Help me persevere and forgive with grace because of Your sustaining power. *Use my faith as a testimony of Your strength and love today.* In Jesus' name, amen. 💪 🔥 🙏





Day 7: ✨ Living Out Faith That Forgives



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Faith That Forgives

Your Verse

Ephesians 4:31-32 NIV "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger...Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."*
- *John 13:34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."*



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Faith That Forgives

Devotional: Faith in Action: Forgive and Love

Faith that forgives must be lived out daily. Ephesians 4 calls us to remove bitterness and anger and to clothe ourselves in kindness and compassion. This transformation is the fruit of trusting God's forgiveness and choosing to extend it to others continually.

Living a forgiving life is challenging, but it is evidence of genuine faith, love, and obedience to Christ's command. As we press on without growing weary, God promises a harvest of restored relationships, peace, and joy.

Let your faith shine as a beacon of hope, showing the world how powerful forgiveness, rooted in trust in God, can truly be.



Reflect and Apply

1. What practical steps can you take to live out a forgiving faith today?

2. How does forgiveness reflect God's love to those around you?

3. What keeps you motivated to continue forgiving even when difficult?



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Faith That Forgives

Journaling Prompts

1. List ways you can demonstrate forgiveness in your daily life.

2. Reflect on how forgiveness impacts your spiritual growth.

3. Pray for endurance and a heart like Jesus' to love and forgive.



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Faith That Forgives

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your example of perfect forgiveness and love. Empower me to live out a faith that forgives every day. Help me to discard bitterness and embrace kindness, showing Your love to the world. *Strengthen me not to grow weary but to reap the harvest of peace and restoration You promise.* In Your name, amen. ✨❤😊





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