

Topic: What does being saved really look like?

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Review: 11-25-2012

1. *We despise sin as much as God despises sin. (We hate displeasing God!)*

1 Cor 6:12 (NLT) ¹²You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. And even though "I am allowed to do anything," I must not become a slave to anything.

We learn to forgive others so that God will forgive us. We serve a God of second chances!

Jealousy -

Gen 37:23 - 24 (NASB) ²³So it came about, when Joseph reached his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the varicolored tunic that was on him;

²⁴and they took him and threw him into the pit. Now the pit was empty, without any water in it.

Envy-

Gen 37:28 (NASB) ²⁸Then some Midianite traders passed by, so they pulled *him* up and lifted Joseph out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty *shekels* of silver. Thus they brought Joseph into Egypt.

Slavery-

Gen 39:1 (NASB)

¹Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there.

Set up-

Gen 39:17 - 18 (NASB)

¹⁷Then she spoke to him with these words, "The Hebrew slave, whom you brought to us, came in to me to make sport of me;

¹⁸and as I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled outside."

Imprisoned-

Gen 39:20 (NASB)

²⁰So Joseph's master took him and put him into the jail, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; and he was there in the jail.

Forgotten-

Gen 40:14 - 15 (NASB)

¹⁴"Only keep me in mind when it goes well with you, and please do me a kindness by mentioning me to Pharaoh and get me out of this house.

¹⁵"For I was in fact kidnapped from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing that they should have put me into the dungeon." **Gen 40:23 (NASB)**

²³Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Two years later, Pharaoh had a dream. Only then did the cupbearer remember Joseph's gift.

Forgiveness - What Does the Bible Say About Forgiveness?

Is forgiveness a conscious choice, or an emotional state?

I believe forgiveness is a choice we make through a decision of our will, motivated by obedience to God and his command to forgive.

How do we forgive when we don't feel like it? How do we translate the decision to forgive into a change of heart?

We forgive by faith, out of obedience. Since forgiveness goes against our nature, we must forgive by faith, whether we feel like it or not. We must trust God to do the work in us that needs to be done so that the forgiveness will be complete.

I believe God honors our commitment to obey Him and our desire to please him when we choose to forgive. He completes the work in his time. We must continue to forgive (our job), by faith, until the work of forgiveness (the Lord's job), is done in our hearts.

How will we know if we have truly forgiven?

Colossians 3:13

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (NIV)

- Lewis B. Smedes wrote in his book, *Forgive and Forget*, "When you release the wrongdoer from the wrong, you cut a malignant tumor out of your inner life. You set a prisoner free, but you discover that the real prisoner was yourself."

Why must we forgive?

The best reason to forgive is because Jesus commanded us to forgive. We learn from Scripture, if we don't forgive, neither will we be forgiven:

Matthew 18:21-22

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. (NIV)

Luke 6:37

Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. (NIV)

Matthew 6:14-16

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not

- We also forgive so that our prayers will not be hindered:
- We forgive out of obedience to the Lord.
- It is a choice, a decision we make.
- As we do this "forgiving," we discover the command is in place for our own good, and we receive the reward of our forgiveness—freedom.

Mark 11:25

And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. (NIV)

Forgiveness Bible Verses

Psalm 19:12 But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.

Psalm 32:5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin. (NIV)

Psalm 79:9 Help us, God our Savior, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive our sins for your name's sake. (NIV)

Matthew 6:12-15 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. (NIV)

Matthew 26:28

This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (NIV)

Luke 17:3 So watch yourselves. "If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them." (NIV)

Luke 23:34

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. (NIV)

1 John 2:12

I am writing to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. (NIV)

MMM: Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.
(1 Peter 2:17)

Honor all men = This could be translated, "Give honor to all." While the verb is the same as in the last command, its verb tense is not the same, here indicating a continued, conscious choice to do this, while honoring "the king" indicates the development of a lifestyle of showing respect to civil authority. Evidently our day-to-day encounters with sinful "men" require us to be continually choosing to regard them with honor and dignity.

- "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves" (Philippians 2:3).

Love the brotherhood = Our agape love--God's kind of unselfish, undeserved love--should extend, on a habitual basis as seen in the verb tense, to all believers.

- "See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently" (1 Peter 1:22).

Fear God = A lifestyle marked by a reverential fear of God is in mind here.

- "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge" (Proverbs 1:7).
"Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil" (Pro.3:7).

Honor the king = This is to be a life's commitment, continually recognizing the God-given authority of human government.

- 1 Pet 2:12 (NASB) ¹²Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe *them*, glorify God in the day of visitation.