

Theme: God's Forgiveness

Scripture 1:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a king who decided to collect the money his servants owed him. So the king began to collect his money. One servant owed him several million dollars. But the servant did not have enough money to pay his master, the king. So the master ordered that everything the servant owned should be sold, even the servant's wife and children. The money would be used to pay the king what the servant owed.

"But the servant fell on his knees and begged, 'Be patient with me. I will pay you everything I owe.' The master felt sorry for his servant. So the master told the servant he did not have to pay. He let the servant go free.

"Later, that same servant found another servant who owed him a few dollars. The servant grabbed the other servant around the neck and said, 'Pay me the money you owe me!'

"The other servant fell on his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me. I will pay you everything I owe.'

"But the first servant refused to be patient. He threw the other servant into prison until he could pay everything he owed. All the other servants saw what happened. They were very sorry. So they went and told their master all that had happened.

"Then the master called his servant in and said, 'You evil servant! You begged me to forget what you owed. So I told you that you did not have to pay anything. I had mercy on you. You should have had the same mercy on that other servant.' The master was very angry, and he put the servant in prison to be punished. The servant had to stay in prison until he could pay everything he owed.

"This king did what my heavenly Father will do to you if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

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Scripture 2:

*All that I am, praise the Lord.
Everything in me, praise his holy name.
My whole being, praise the Lord.
Do not forget all his kindnesses.*

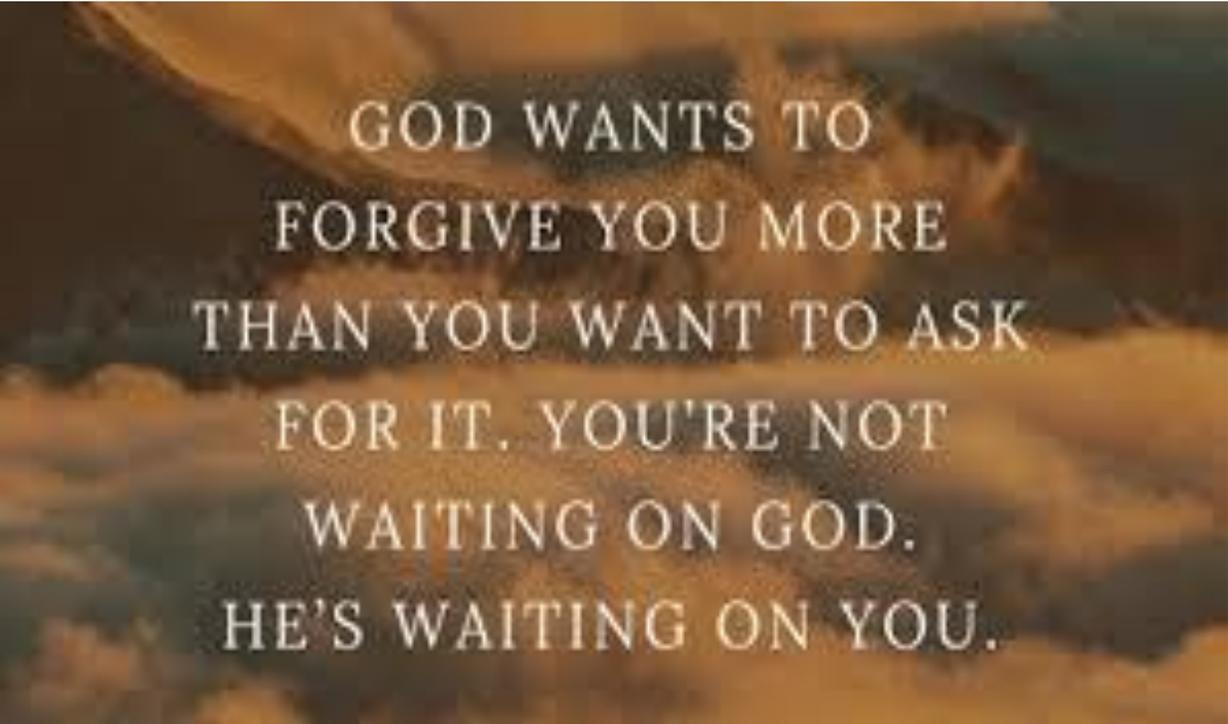
*The Lord forgives me for all my sins.
He heals all my diseases.
He saves my life from the grave.
He loads me with love and mercy.*

*He will not always scold us.
He will not be angry forever.
He has not punished us as our sins should be punished.
He has not repaid us for the evil we have done.*

*As high as the sky is above the earth,
so great is his love for those who respect him.
He has taken our sins away from us
as far as the east is from west.*

Reflections on Scripture:

Why is God prepared to forgive anyone anything?
Is there anything God shouldn't forgive?
How can God manage to forgive others of things that we would struggle to do so?
What does that say about God ... and us?
How can we live out the teaching of this Scripture?



GOD WANTS TO
FORGIVE YOU MORE
THAN YOU WANT TO ASK
FOR IT. YOU'RE NOT
WAITING ON GOD.
HE'S WAITING ON YOU.

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Saint of the Week: St Cornelius



How did he live out the theme of this week?

What was his understanding of God's forgiveness?

The World Today:



How can we reflect God's forgiveness in this world?
How can forgiveness be an important part of mental health in today's society?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, I thank You for the power of forgiveness, and I choose to forgive everyone who has hurt me.

Help me set others free and release them to You.
Help me bless those who have hurt me.
Help me walk in righteousness, peace, and joy, demonstrating Your life here on earth.

I choose to be kind and compassionate, forgiving others, just as You forgave me.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Pope Francis:

'Don't be afraid: God loves you; He loves you as you are and He knows that only His love can change your life ... When God forgives, He loses His memory, He forgets our sins, He forgets. God is so good with us!'

God never
gets tired of
forgiving you.

