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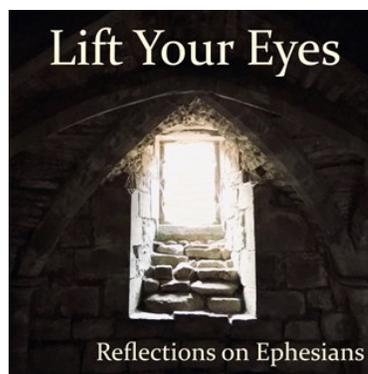
Church Phone: (562) 869- 4432

*Happy Lord's Day!*

**News**

- ◆ Please continue to pray for Joann Jacobs. She wants to discontinue her therapy and come home.
- ◆ You may have noticed that our large sign near the street was damaged during our last wind storm. It has to be replaced.
- ◆ **Mark your calendars!** Coming soon is the Defending the Faith Conference on Oct. 28-30. Both Dave and Robert will be speaking at the conference.
- ◆ The road work on Telegraph will continue through out the month. So plan on getting to church a little earlier.

Dave's this message this morning is "The Name you can trust", from Ephesians 1:11-23.



**Sunday morning class is from Isaiah chapters 18-19.**

**Sunday Morning worship is available to view on YouTube. You can access this through the church website.**

Friday night bible study has temporarily been discontinued.



Please continue to keep LaPhonia, Teresa and Jana Lee, Dan's friends Liz and Genevieve, Vivian's friend Amber Esparza and Francine La Vouge, Robert, Dennis, Oscar, Barbara Robertson, Tomas and Georgina Martin, Joann Jacobs, Joe Crownover, Melissa Leader, Henry and Frances, Mary's parents, and her uncle Felix Please pray for Dave as he continues to work hard to bring you lessons from God's word. Let us not forget to pray for our Church. We also need to pray for country the Great USA.

**Scripture to Ponder**

*My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.*

*1 John 2:1-2*

## True Forgiveness

By

Eddie Parrish

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Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you” (Eph. 4:32).

The character of the Christian includes “bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you” (Col. 3:13). What has God said about this beautiful gift that we can (and must) extend to each other? Specifically, what roles do repentance and restitution play in the interchange between the offender and the offended? Must repentance happen before forgiveness can be granted? These will be the questions we will explore more deeply at the worship hour. But by way of summary, let me offer you the following thoughts.

If we harbor an unforgiving attitude toward others, God will not forgive us (Matt. 6:14-15; 18:35). Each of us should emulate our Father by consistently maintaining an intense desire to extend pardon to those who have sinned against us (1 Tim. 2:4). We should keep our hearts free from bitterness, wrath, hatred, malice, and revenge (Rom. 12:17ff). We should love our enemies and treat them with kindness (Matt. 5:44; 7:12). Our pure hearts should lead us to seek, meekly and humbly (Gal. 6:1), to restore fellowship with those who have sinned against us (Matt. 18:15). This – the attitude, or disposition, of forgiveness – should be shown to offenders unconditionally.

But there is more to forgiveness than just one’s attitude. There is also the action of forgiveness, which is the releasing or canceling

of a debt. The Bible is clear that a sin-debt cannot be released or canceled until penitence is expressed (Luke 17:3; Acts 8:22). This consequence of sin was not imposed by man, but God. Therefore, one man does not have the authority to release another from that obligation. It is in this sense that only God can forgive sins (Mark 2:7). It is God’s will that consequences go hand-in-hand with wrongdoing. One of those consequences is the responsibility of the offender to repent of his sin and seek restitution with the one he sinned against. To do less would minimize the seriousness of sin.

The attitude of forgiveness is unconditional. The action of forgiveness is not. When someone sins against you, release all bitterness and anger even if your offender remains obstinate. Pray for and seek reconciliation. But until your offender experiences godly sorrow that produces repentance (2 Cor. 7:10), his debt to you and to God remains.

