

MY GOD IN MOTION...

Forgive Their Trespasses  
and Love Your Enemies!

*“For if you forgive men their trespasses,  
your heavenly Father will also forgive you” Matthew 6:14*

Virtual Home Group Bible Study

01-15-2025

# Agenda

- Purpose & Opening
- Topic: What, Why, How, When
- Discussion
- Resources
- Feedback & Future Topics
- Closing & Send off

# Purpose & Opening

## Purpose: Exhort one another into Love and Good Works

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,  
Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some,  
but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

## Opening Prayer:

Thank you for this opportunity

Give me Words to deliver Your message

Give us Eyes to See all things from Your perspective

Give us Ears to Hear and understand Your Word

Help us get to know You through Your Word

Help us be transformed into the people You intended us to be

Help us turn Your Words into loving action through our flesh

Help us bring You glory in all we do

# Topic

What: Forgive their trespasses and love your enemies

Why:

- My children can easily get stuck in self-centered perspectives.
- They need to open their eyes and see things from my perspective.
- Each of my children are precious and deserve respect and love.
- I suffered in the flesh for my enemies, and I forgave those who abused me.
- You can do the same once you see why it is important.
- The most significant thing you can do is lay down your life for someone.
- Do it for me, and we will get many others on board with the program.

(from journalling 1/14)

Approach: What, Why, How, When

# What: Forgive Those Who Trespass Against Us

## Matthew 6:12 (3 versions)

And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.(NKJV, NIV)

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us.(NMB)

Forgive us for how we have wronged you, as we forgive those who have wronged us.(CEB)

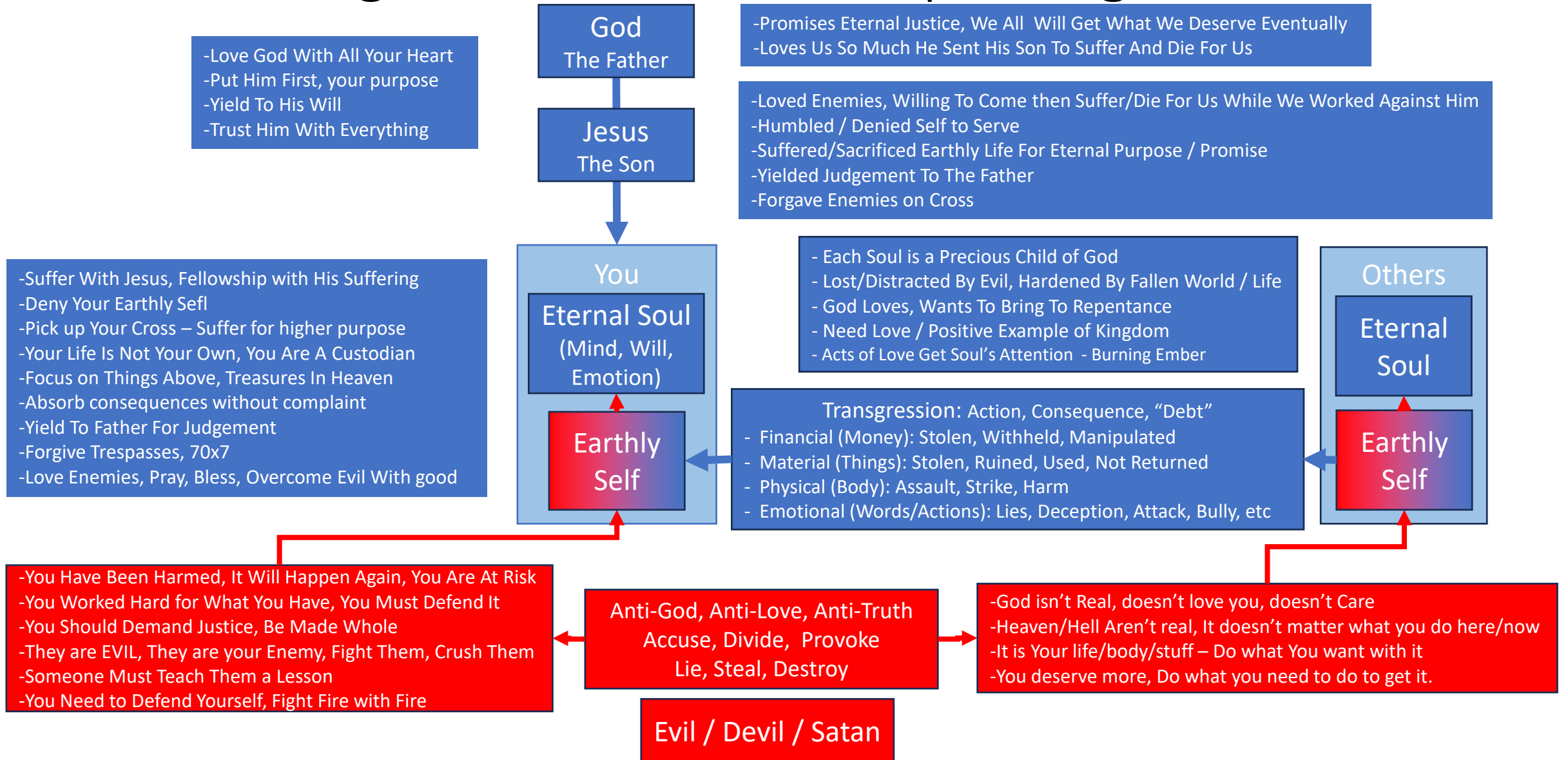
Debtor = opheiletés (Gr) = o-fay-let'-ace

- someone under obligation to pay something back
- one who has not made amends to one whom he has injured

## For believers:

- God gave us a gift of life, free will, and a promise of blessings/curses based on simple rules.
- We accumulate debt when we violate His rules and spend His gift of life on temporary earthly things rather than follow His rules and invest it back with Him and His Kingdom.
- The wages of sin are death... that is the debt we have earned... We owe God a debt equal to death.
- Christ offers to forgive / pay our debt of sin with His blood if we make Him Lord of our lives. Good deal!

# What: Forgive Those Who Trespass Against You



# Why: Forgiveness Is Not Optional

## Matthew 6:14-15

“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

# Why: We Can Not Hate Others And Love God

## 1 John 4:20

“If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?”

## Ephesians 4:1-3

“...I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, **bearing with one another in love.** Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.



# How: Jesus Sacrificed To Win Over Enemies

## Romans 5:8

“but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

## Romans 5:10

“For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.”

## John 15:13

“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”

# Jesus Forgave His Enemies, and Died for Them

- Jesus suffered more than you will ever suffer
  - Knowing torture is coming - deciding to proceed – Sweating drops of blood
  - Betrayal by close friend / a follower - disciple
  - Rejection by His People, People he humbled himself to serve
  - Scourge/Flesh torn from body
  - Crown of thorns driven into skull
  - Struck with sticks, Beard pulled out, Beaten beyond recognition
  - Carry Cross to Crucifixion Site
  - Nailed naked to cross and hung with criminals
  - Death by crucifixion while innocent
  - Pierced by Spear
- Yet he forgave them

Luke 23:34: "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing"

# How: Renew Your Mind, See Things Differently

Identity: Stand In Righteousness Jesus Paid For – Fully Forgiven By His Blood

Purpose: Bring God Glory In All You Do

Consider God's Love and Desire For **Their** Eternal Soul:

Repentance, Salvation

God will bring Justice

Consider God's Love and Desire For **Your** Eternal Soul:

Deny Your Self

- Loose Your Life to Find It

Pick up Your Cross

- Sacrifice As Needed To Serve God's Will
- You and Your Earthly Assets are Not Your Own
- Forgive those who persecute you
- Trust God To Be The Just Judge

Follow His Model

- Manifest God, Become Love
- Focus On Things Above, Treasures in Heaven
- Overcome Evil with Good

# How: Stand in Your New Identity

Heavenly Father, I Hereby declare:

- I am a new creation in Christ. The old has gone, and the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Through His blood, I am redeemed, fully forgiven, and cleansed from all unrighteousness. (Ephesians 1:7, 1 John 1:9)
- I am no longer a slave to sin but a child of God, adopted into His family and called His beloved.  
(Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:7, 1 John 3:1)
- Through Christ, I have been justified and made righteous before God. (Romans 5:1, 2 Corinthians 5:21)
- I am seated with Christ in heavenly places, and nothing can separate me from His love. (Ephesians 2:6, Romans 8:38-39)
- I have the Holy Spirit dwelling within me, empowering me to live a victorious and holy life. (1 Corinthians 6:19, Romans 8:11)
- I am equipped with the full armor of God to stand against the schemes of the enemy. (Ephesians 6:10-17)
- I am more than a conqueror through Him who loves me. (Romans 8:37)
- I have been given authority over the enemy, and no weapon formed against me shall prosper. (Luke 10:19, Isaiah 54:17)
- I am blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 1:3)
- I have peace that surpasses all understanding and joy that cannot be taken away. (Philippians 4:7, John 16:22)
- God has great plans for me, plans to prosper me and give me a hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)
- He works all things together for my good because I love Him and am called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)
- I am chosen, royal, and holy, called out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)
- I am His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which He prepared in advance for me to walk in. (Ephesians 2:10)
- I declare I am victorious, redeemed, and loved, standing firm in the promises of God, who is faithful to fulfill every word.  
(2 Corinthians 1:20, Hebrews 10:23)

I speak this in Jesus Holy Name. Amen.

# How: Embrace Your New Purpose

## 1 Corinthians 10:31

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God.**

## Matthew 5:16

In the same way, **let your light shine before others**, so that they may see your good works and **give glory to your Father** who is in heaven.

# How: Declare Alignment With Your Purpose

Heavenly Father, I Hereby declare:

- I embrace the purpose You have given me as Your child: to manifest Your presence, love, and truth to this fallen world.
- You have called me to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth. Let my life shine before others so they may see Your good works in me and glorify You, my Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:13-16)
- Holy Spirit, empower me to walk in righteousness, love, and truth. Help me to bear the fruit of the Spirit in every area of my life—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—so that others may encounter You through me. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- Lord, I dedicate my gifts, talents, and resources to advancing Your kingdom. Let my hands serve with compassion, my words speak life, and my heart reflect Your love. Teach me to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. (Micah 6:8)
- I offer myself as Your ambassador to bring hope to the hopeless, healing to the broken, and truth to the deceived. I surrender my plans and ambitions to You, trusting that Your purpose for me is greater than anything I could imagine. Let me discern and carry out Your good, pleasing, and perfect will. (Romans 12:2)
- Thank You, Lord, for the privilege of being Your vessel in this world. Let everything I do bring glory to Your name, and may Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:10)

I Speak this in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.

Baseline Version

# How: Declare Commitment to Your New Purpose

Heavenly Father, I Hereby declare:

- I fully embrace my new purpose as a Child of God:
  - I will manifest Your presence as a bright light shining in this dark world. (2 Corinthians 5:20, Ephesians 5:8-10, Matthew 5:14)
  - I will bring glory to God in all I do (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- My life is no longer my own; I have been bought with a price. I will live a life worthy of the price You paid. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
  - I offer my earthly life as a living sacrifice, and my body as a temple for the spirit, holy and pleasing to God. (Romans 12:1)
  - I will no longer conform to the patterns of this world but will be transformed by the renewing of my mind. I will discern and live out God's good, pleasing, and perfect will. (Romans 12:2)
  - I have Put off the old man and His practices and am putting on new life with Christ. (Ephesians 4:22)
  - I hereby dedicate my gifts, talents, and resources to advancing Your kingdom rather than serving my own self-centered agendas. (Matthew 10:8)
- I will be the light of the world and the salt of the earth as a living example for others to see. (Matthew 5:13-16)
  - Holy Spirit, Thank you for empowering me to walk in righteousness, love, and truth. (Acts 1:6, Isaiah 11:2, Romans 8:3-4, Ephesians 3:16-20)
  - I will imitate Jesus and walk as He walked, showing compassion to the broken, love to the unlovable, and hope to the hopeless. (1 John 2:6, Matthew 25:35-40)
  - I will bear the fruit of the Spirit in every area of my life—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—so that others may encounter Christ through me. (Galatians 5:22-23)
  - I will stand as a witness to God's faithfulness, demonstrating His love through my words, actions, and life. (1 John 3:18)
  - I will execute justly, demonstrate a love of mercy, and walk humbly with God as I go through my day. (Micah 6:8)
- I will be an ambassador for Christ, to bring hope to the hopeless, healing to the broken, and truth to the deceived.
  - I surrender my plans and ambitions to You, trusting that Your purpose for me is greater than anything I could ever imagine. (Jeremiah 29:11, Proverbs 3:5-6)
  - As you lead me, My hands will serve with compassion, my words will speak life, my heart will reflect His love (Ephesians 5:1-2)
  - The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, anointing me to bring good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and declare the year of the Lord's favor. (Isaiah 61:1-2) I will speak the truth in love and boldly proclaim the gospel to all creation. (Ephesians 4:15, Mark 16:15)
- I am empowered by Holy Spirit to fulfill my purpose, knowing that He who began a good work in me will bring it to completion. (Philippians 1:6)
- Thank You, Lord, for the privilege of being Your vessel in this world. I am fully committed to glorify God in all I do and serve Him to advance His kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:10).

I speak this in Jesus' name, Amen.

# How: God Loves and Wants Us All To Repent

## Ezekiel 33:11

"I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live"

## Acts 17:30

"In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now **He commands all people everywhere to repent**"

## 2 Peter 3:9

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that **all should come to repentance.**"

## Luke 15:7

"I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance."



# How: Leave Judgement To God

## 2 Corinthians 5:10

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil"

## Romans 2:5-6

"But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who 'will render to each one according to his deeds'"

## Jeremiah 17:10

"But I, the Lord, search all hearts and examine secret motives. I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions deserve"

## Romans 14:10-13

"But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ."

# How: Focus on God's Eternal Agenda For You

## 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we **do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen**. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

## Colossians 3:1-2

"**Set your minds on things above**, not on earthly things".

## Matthew 6:19-21

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, But **store up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal"

# How: You and Your Earthly Assets Are Not “Yours”

## 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

"You are not your own; you were bought at a price"

## Psalms 24:1

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,  
the world and those who dwell therein."

## 1 Corinthians 4:7

"What do you have that you did not receive?"

## 1 Peter 4:10

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another"

## Matthew 6:19

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth"

# What: We Are Called To Love Our Enemies

- Matthew 5:43-48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, **love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you**, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven;

for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

# How: Bless / Do Good For Your “Enemies”

## Romans 12:16-20

Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

Therefore

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

If he is thirsty, give him a drink;

For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.”

## Romans 12:21

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

I find it most effective to Ask HIM specifically how best to do this.

“Lord, I wish to serve your will but ask your guidance on how best to proceed...”

# How: Pray For Your “Enemies”

Heavenly Father,

I come before You with a heart seeking Your grace and mercy, both for myself and for those who have harmed me.

You teach us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us, that we may reflect Your perfect love. (Matthew 5:44-45)

Lord, I lift-up [Name] to You. Though they have acted against me, I know You desire for all to come to repentance and to know the truth of Your love. (1 Timothy 2:4)

- I ask You to soften their heart, open their eyes to Your light, and draw them into a saving relationship with You through Jesus Christ. (John 6:44)
- Forgive them, Lord, for they likely do not fully understand the impact of their actions. (Luke 23:34)
- Pour out Your Spirit upon them, bringing conviction where it is needed and comfort where there is pain. Replace any anger, bitterness, or hatred with the peace and joy that comes from knowing You. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- Bless them abundantly, Father, not as a reward for their deeds, but as an outpouring of Your unmerited favor and love. May Your kindness lead them to repentance. (Romans 2:4)
- Surround them with people who will speak truth into their life and guide them toward righteousness.

Lord, guard my heart from bitterness or resentment. Help me to trust in Your justice and to walk in forgiveness, knowing vengeance belongs to You. (Romans 12:19-21) Fill me with Your love so that I may reflect Your character, even in difficult situations.

I believe Your plans for [Name] are for their good, to give them a hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Let them encounter the transformative power of the cross and be born again as a new creation in Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Thank You, Father, for hearing my prayer. I trust in Your perfect will and timing, knowing that nothing is impossible for You. (Luke 1:37)

I leave this situation and [Name] in Your hands, confident in Your love and grace. Help me know when and how I can be of service.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

# How: Deny Yourself, Become Love

## 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NIV)

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy,  
it does not boast, it is not proud.

It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking,  
it is not easily angered; **it keeps no record of wrongs.**

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Every time you play back all the things they did to hurt you, you are proving you have not yet become “Love”.

You must forget it all and move on.

# By Sacrificing Ourselves in Love, We Are Perfected

## Hebrews 10:14

But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

## Colossians 3:14

And above all these **put on love**, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

## Matthew 5:44:48

Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven... Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.



# You Must Choose To Lay Down Your “Self”

John 10:17-18

“Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”

# Resources

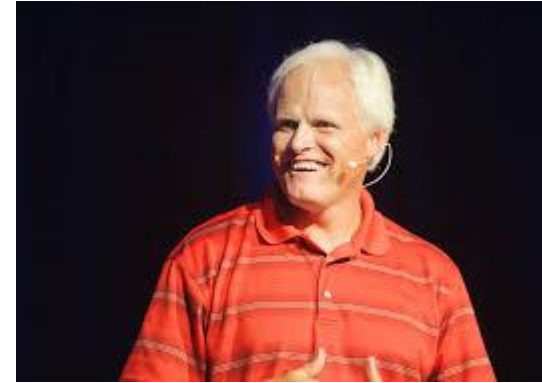
Dan Mohler

Forgiveness vs Unforgiveness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESwRVuQjuCc>

Forgiveness is essential for intimacy with God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOoppKXxD44>



My Blog Posts

How Can You Forgive and Even Love Your Enemies

<https://mygodinmotion.org/about-him-god-jesus/principles/forgive-and-love-your-enemeis/>

**How Can You Forgive and Even Love Your Enemies**

**Introduction**

Forgiveness is a cornerstone of Christian faith. We are called to forgive those who trespass against us, and then to go beyond forgiveness and demonstrate love for our enemies. This can be very difficult concept to grasp as it goes against our self-centered human nature which pushes for preserving our own interests and demands retaliation when we are attacked. We are called to rise above this earthly oriented instinct and embody divine love. Jesus teaches us why this is important and demonstrates by example how to do it. It is essential to conquer this challenge to gain the benefit of Jesus' work of salvation for us. I have come to appreciate some key points and perspectives to help us tackle this challenge. This post will explore **what** forgiveness is, **why** it is necessary, **how** we can practice forgiveness and go even further to love our enemies.

**What is Forgiveness?**

Forgiveness is the purposeful act to pardon someone for a debt they owe without compensation.

To get a proper understanding of forgiveness it helps if we take a brief peek at the concepts of **Justice, Debt, Mercy and Love.**

**Justice:**

Justice demands that everyone be treated fairly; people should respect each other and not cause harm to each another. The Judeo/Christian concept of Justice is based on the biblical principle that **every** human being was formed in God's image and deserves to be respected and treated fairly.

"Let us make man in our image". Genesis 1:26-27.  
"The rich and poor have this in common. The Lord made them both". Proverbs 22:2  
"For God shows no partiality." Romans 2:11

**Debt:**

The administration of justice requires a system of accounting to keep track and resolve injustices. Someone who does

# Discussion

## Does this make sense?

- Questions
- Clarification
- Other Inputs

## Practical Experiences?

- Struggles / Barriers
- Strategies to Overcome
- Success / Lesson Learned

# Call To Action: Forgive, Love Enemies

Stand In Your Identity – Fully Forgiven

Embrace Your Purpose – Bring God Glory in ALL You Do

Forgive Those Who Trespass Against You

- You are not Your Own
- Pursue Treasures in Heaven
- Let God Be The Just Judge

Love Your Enemies

- Pray For Them
- Become An Agent For God – Bless Them
- Overcome Evil With Good – Ask Him How

# Feedback

- What is working: Keep doing
  - ✓ Good Content - Food for thought
  - ✓ Good Mix - Content & discussion
  - ✓ Good Format - Casual / Informal – Easy to engage
  - ✓ Graphics are good/helpful - Draw the story together
- What could be better: Suggestions to consider
  - ✓ Me: Let folks do a quick intro to get familiar
  - ✓ Me: Host to log in at 6:45 so others can get settled online and start on time
    - Me: Set dog up for success to avoid distraction
    - Me: Leave more time for discussion

# Future Topics

Candidate topic for next week:

## Recent Activity / Potential Topics:

- Stop Asking and Start Decreeing God's Promises!
- Deny Your Life To The Point Of Death!
- Act in Faith to Make Room For Grace!
- How do you Eat the Word of God?
- How do you Restore the Image of God?
- What does it mean to be a Branch of Jesus' Vine?
- How is God's Love perfected through us?
- Fear of God is the beginning of Wisdom!

## Any hot topics on your mind?

- How to stand in Faith in end times
- What does the new heaven/new earth mean?
- **How is Scripture binding in spiritual world**

**Next Session:  
Wed 1/22**

# Closing

- Thank You for this opportunity, fellowship, sharing
- Thank you for the gift of Your Word, and Your Son who made it flesh
- May we See, Hear, and Embrace your Word in our Heart, and assimilate it into our flesh
- May we recognize the opportunities within us and around us
- May we seek Your face and embrace Your help to root out our selfish agendas
- May we transform into Your image and perfect the flow of Your love to others
- May we be inspired into the good works that You have prepared
- May we walk in the light as Jesus was in the light
- May we shine as a bright beacon in this dark world
- We do all in Your name to bring glory to the Father who sent You

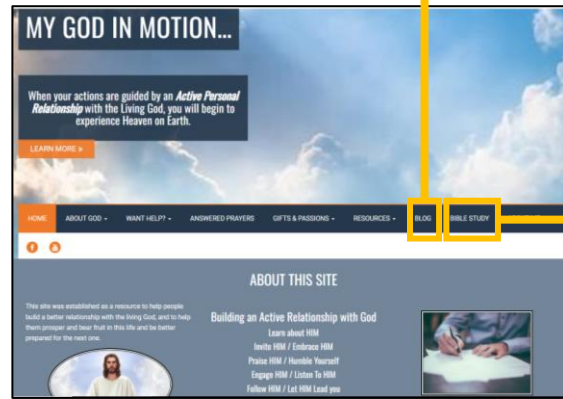
“...if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

# “My God In Motion” Resources

Website: <https://mygodinmotion.org/>

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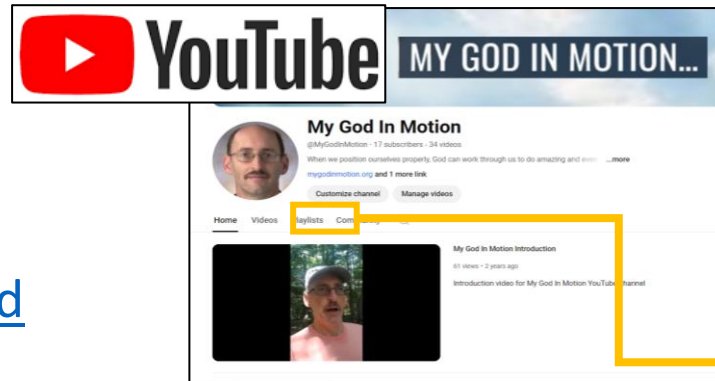
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