

Love Like Jesus...
FORGIVES SINNERS – Part 1
February 11, 2018

Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV) *“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*

How can you forgive someone who does something that seems absolutely unforgivable?

Jesus gave an amazing display
of forgiveness from the cross.

Luke 23:32-33 (NIV) *“Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Him there, along with the criminals—one on His right, the other on His left.”*

The word Excruciating comes from out of the cross.

John 19:29 (NIV) *“A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips.”*

Luke 23:39 (NIV) *“One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Him: ‘Aren’t You the Messiah? Save Yourself and us!’ ”*

Luke 23:34a (NIV) *“Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.’ ”*

How Do We Forgive Like Jesus?

John 13:35 (NIV) *“By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”*

1. Pray for those who hurt you.

Luke 6:28 (NLT) *“Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you.”*

Jaron Lowenstein – “Praying For You”

Matthew 5:43-44 (NIV) *“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”*

Romans worshiped “revenge” as one of their gods.
Jewish law was an eye for an eye,
a tooth for a tooth, and blood for blood.

Did someone... Hurt you? Devastate you? Betray you?

- Pray for your friend that lied about you.
- Pray for your boss who mistreated you.
- Pray for your parent who abandoned or abused you.
- Pray for your friend who let you down.

A right attitude precedes a right action.

Romans 12:2 (NIV) *“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

Your prayer may or may not change the person you are
praying for, but it will always change you.

2. Forgive as you have been forgiven.

Colossians 3:13 (NIV) *“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”*

Anne Lamott said...

“Unforgiveness is like drinking poison and hoping the other person dies.”

Forgiving someone won’t change the past,
but it can change your future.