

THE QUEENS MINISTRY – BIBLE BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

“GOD’S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS”

Bishop Andy C. Lewter: D. Min. – Senior Pastor

Elder Mary Ellis – Facilitator

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“You, Lord are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.” Psalms 86:5

God’s Love!

John 3:16 says it all – it sums up the Bible’ core premise:

That God so loved the world that He gave His only Son – to redeem, to reconcile, to forgive and to restore us back to Himself.

As we’ve shared in previous lessons: Mercy and Grace, Love and Forgiveness are characteristics of the One True God, functioning in connection to one another as He sits Sovereign on the throne of heaven.

The mystery of our Triune God weaves these attributes together in a beautiful tapestry of **redemption and restoration** for all of us.

We have aimed to show in these three (3) lessons series that mercy, grace, and forgiveness flow out of His great love for us.

Part I: God loves us!

1: One of God’s most endearing characteristic is His love. He loves us

- a) Unconditionally**
- b) Eternally - Everlastingly**
- c) Faithfully**
- d) Compassionately**
- e) Greatly**

2: God is love! (1 John 4:8b) - How do we see His love?

a) 1 John 4:10 _____

b) 1 Peter 1:18-19 **Such is the extent of God's love that He sent His only Son** _____

c) 1 John 3:16 **This is how we know what love is – Jesus Christ, God's Son,** _____

d) Romans 5:8 **But God shows His love for us in that**
_____ **Christ died for us.**

3: Our response to His love should include:

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

4: Love requires relationship.

He loves us so that He has permitted us to become part of His family. We were created to be in relationship with Him, and throughout eternity the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit have existed together in relationship, as our great example.

Gal 4:4-5 _____

John 1:12 _____

2 Cor 5:19 _____

It is at Calvary, that we see God's perfect love and perfect justice meet!

Part II: God's Forgiveness

5: Definition of forgiveness

Hebrew words:

_____ – to take away guilt iniquity or transgression

_____ – God's offer of pardon and forgiveness to the sinner
(not to one another)

Greek words: _ Aphesis or Apoluo – are (2) of the NT words that are associated with forgiveness, pardon, cancellation of, or to set free, release ____

6: If we confess our faults

When we study forgiveness, it is important to note that forgiveness operates in the scope of sin. In many of the passages in the Bible that contain the word forgive or forgiveness, sin is mentioned.

Gen 50:17; Exodus 32:32; Lev. 4:35; I Sam. 25:28; Matt. 12:31; Luke 5:20

In order to find forgiveness, we must be willing to **admit or confess** the sin in our lives. Not confessing or trying to pass it off as a mere mistake or human failing, or temporary lapse of judgement, even denying the sin can be a **barrier to forgiveness**.

The Bible teaches that if we _____ our sins, He is

_____ and _____ **to forgive us our sins and to**

_____ **from all _____ 1 John 1:9**

7: God forgives sin!

However - He does not look the other way or pretends it didn't happen – but He forgives because of the penalty exacted and paid. Remember He is a Holy and Righteous God.

Rom. 6:23 tells us that the penalty for sin is _____

Heb. 9:22 tells us that without the shedding of blood there is no _____ of sins or forgiveness.

Col. 2:13-14 tells us that Christ has forgiven all _____ and

has wiped out the handwriting of _____ that were against us

8: Payment Made!

So we see, that there must also be a payment made on behalf of the sin done. The OT had the sacrifice of animals to cover – however, the blood of the sacrificed animals did not actually pay for sin, it simply postponed the judgment until a better sacrifice could be offered. And in the NT we are offered the opportunity to see that better sacrifice.

- a) Who is the better sacrifice that fully paid for the penalty of sin and makes forgiveness possible? _____
- b) Heb. 10:11-12 tells us in former days this religious duty was performed by the _____ over and over or repeatedly.
- c) How many times did the last Priest have to perform His sacrifice? _____
- d) What did He do after it was completed?

- e) Verse 10 says that He did it _____ for _____
- f) In Matt. 26:28 what did Jesus tell the disciples about His great sacrifice for our sins? “This is my _____ of the covenant, which is _____ for the many for the _____ (or remission) of _____”
- g) What does Eph. 1:7 tell us that we have in Christ. _____ through His blood, the _____ of sins, in accordance with the riches of _____

So God forgives people on the basis of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we must **confess, repent, and turn to God;** and once we have experienced the forgiveness of God, we are then able to _____ **Col. 3:13**

We are reminded that we must be willing to forgive - not holding to a certain limit or number; but as Jesus instructed Peter to forgive how many times _____ Matt. 18:21

9: Parable of Forgiveness

Read the parable found in **Matthew 18: 21-35** (answer the questions below)

1) How much did the servant owe? _____

2) Was he able to repay? _____

3) What was the penalty or repayment needed to settle the debt?

4) What did the servant cry out for? _____

5) What did the king do in response? _____

6) How much did the 2nd servant owe the first servant? _____

7) How did the 1st servant act with his fellow servant? _____

8) What did the 2nd servant ask for _____ and _____

9) How did the 1st servant respond? _____

10) What did the other servants do? _____

11) What did the king call the 1st servant? _____

12) What did the king tell the 1st servant he should have shown his fellow

servant? _____

13) What eventually happened to the 1st servant?

14) What does the last verse say can happen if we withhold forgiveness?

15) What two things does this parable tell us about forgiveness:

10: Forgive and forgetting.

To forgive and forget does not mean that a person who has been wronged or hurt will develop some sort of amnesia – no our forgiveness will not erase the pain of suffering, nor our remembrance of it.

But, in the Biblical definition of forgetting or remembering, we see another concept. The **Biblical concept of remembering has to do with choosing to act and forgetting means refusing to act on the basis of something.**

For example – when God says that He will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more (Jer. 31:34; Heb. 8:12, 10:17) He is not forgetting that people have sinned, but when He forgives, He is choosing not to act on the basis of those sins.

What does Cor. 13:5 say:

A person may remember that something happened, but he also can choose to not act upon it – as in the biblical way of forgetting.

What are some of the things we may see when we don't forgive and forget?

Think about it.

Is forgiveness easy? What was one of the hardest times you have experienced when you needed to show forgiveness? How did you feel afterward?

Summary

What we learn about God's love is that what He has offered to us through His abundant love, through the sacrifice of His Son – we are to imitate.

“You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.” **Psalms 86:5**

“The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against Him.” **Daniel 9:9**

“If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.” **Psalms 130:3-4**

“Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.” **Psalms 32:1**

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” **Ephesians 4:32**

“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.” **Matthew 6:14**

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

“Love prospers when a fault is forgiven but dwelling on it separates close friends.” **Proverbs 17:9**