

Series: Ready, Aim, Pray
Message: Prayer Target #4: God's Forgiveness
Scripture: Matthew 6:12
Speaker: Randy Pope
Date: 16/17 March 2013

Matthew 6:12

¹² *and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

1. God Expects His Followers To Seek Forgiveness From Him. 1 John 1:5-2:6

1.1 Sin Breaks Fellowship With God. 1 John 1:5-7

1 John 1:5

⁵ *And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.*

1 John 1:6

⁶ *If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;*

1 John 1:7

⁷ *but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

1.2 Sin Is A Part Of Every Believer's Life. 1 John 1:8,10

1 John 1:8

⁸ *If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

1 John 1:10

¹⁰ *If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*

1.3 Sin Must Be Confessed To Be Forgiven. 1 John 1:9

1 John 1:9

⁹ *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

1.4 Sin's Penalty Must Be Paid By Our Advocate. 1 John 2:1-2

1 John 2:1-2

¹ *My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;*
² *and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.*

1.5 Sin's forgiveness is evidenced by obedience. 1 John 2:3-6

1 John 2:3-6

³ *And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.*

⁴ *Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,*

⁵ *but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may be sure that we are in him:*

⁶ *whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.*

2. God Expects His Followers To Grant Forgiveness To Others. Matthew 18:21-35

Matthew 6:12

¹² *and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

Matthew 6:14-15

¹⁴ *"For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.*

¹⁵ *"But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.*

2.1 Forgiven People Are Recipients Of God's Grace And Mercy. Matthew 18:21-27

Matthew 18:21-27

²¹ *Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"*

²² *Jesus *said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.*

²³ *"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a certain king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.*

²⁴ *"And when he had begun to settle them, there was brought to him one who owed him ten thousand talents.*

²⁵ *"But since he did not have the means to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made.*

²⁶ *"The slave therefore falling down, prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will repay you everything.'*

²⁷ *"And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.*