



# Teach us to pray

*A sermon series on the Lord's Prayer*

## Praying For Forgiveness

Matthew 6:12

- **Adress:** Our Father which art in heaven,
- **1st Petition:** Hallowed be thy name.
- **2nd Petition:** Thy kingdom come,
- **3rd Petition:** Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
- **4th Petition:** Give us this day our daily bread.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.  
Amen.

9 Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread, 12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

-Matthew 6:9-12

"Madrid is full of boys named Paco, which is diminutive of the name Francisco, and there is a Madrid joke about a father who came to Madrid and inserted an advertisement in the personal columns of El Liberal which said: "PACO MEET ME AT HOTEL MONTANA NOON TUESDAY ALL IS FORGIVEN PAPA" and how a squadron of Guardia Civil (national guard) had to be called out to disperse the eight hundred young men who answered the advertisement."

- Hemingway, "The Capital of the World"



"Those more inclined to pardon the transgressions of others have been found to have lower blood pressure, fewer depressive symptoms and, once they hit late middle age, better overall mental and physical health than those who do not forgive easily."

- By Melissa Healy, Los Angeles Times- January 6, 2008

“God ain’t done forgiving. . . and we ain’t done sinning.”

# Matthew 6:12

## Main Point: Forgiven People Forgive

- **vs 12a:** Vertical Forgiveness: Forgive us our debts

*LEADS TO*

- **vs 12b:** Horizontal Forgiveness: as we forgive our debtors.



- **Two things have to happen in order for forgiveness to happen:**
  - The gravity of the injustice must be acknowledged.
  - The offended party must release the other of moral liability and guilt.
- 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. - Matthew 18:27
- **Biblical Definition:** *The generous release of a genuine debt.*

# Debts, Transgressions, or Sins?

**Matthew 6:12 “Debts”:** a monetary term meaning something we owe.

**Matthew 6:14-15 “Trespasses”:** which is a legal term meaning laws that we have broken.

**Luke “Sins”:** our total rebellion against God.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

- Romans 8:1

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

-Psalm 32:1

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

-Matthew 6:14-15

“. . . forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

-Matthew 6:12

- **Two things have to happen in order for forgiveness to happen:**
  - The gravity of the injustice must be acknowledged.
  - The offended party must release the other of moral liability and guilt.
- 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. - Matthew 18:27
- **Biblical Definition:** *The generous release of a genuine debt.*



"Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

I attended Ron's graduation service in the prison. As he was walking toward me to receive his certificate I saw out of the corner of my eye a tall, handsome, African American woman stand up in the crowd and come toward us. She threw her arms around Ron and announced, "I am the mother of the young girl that Ron murdered." She proceeded to tell the stunned crowd the story, and ended by declaring, "This young man is my adopted son." After his release, Mrs. Washington helped Ron Flowers adjust to life back in the community, invited him over for dinner, and even attended his wedding. This beautiful ending to a tragic story could only happen through God's grace. Only he can bring about such reconciliation and healing.

- Chuck Colson, Prison Fellowship

Our father in heaven. . . forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

-Matthew 6:12