



# “SEEKING FORGIVENESS”

CHRISTIAN FORGIVENESS - #1



# **REASONS FOR STUDYING**

- **Forgiveness is indispensable to any relationship.**
- **Understanding forgiveness is essential to understand God's forgiveness of us.**

# **OVERVIEW OF SERIES**

- **“What do I do when I am the one who needs forgiveness?”**
- **“What is forgiveness?”**
- **“When do I confront?”**
- **“What is reconciliation?”**
- **“What is restoration?”**

# **PRINCIPLE #1**

***“Our sins against others are far worse than we think.”***

# MATTHEW 5:21-22

**21** “**You have heard** that it was said by those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’

**22** But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother **without a cause** will be **liable to judgment**; whoever shall say to his brother, ‘**Raca**’, will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘**You fool!**’ will be liable to hell fire.

# **APPLICATIONS**

- **Sin against another indicates a heart attitude that actually wants to do far worse than what has been done. It is only conscience, society, and law that restrains us.**
- **Sin against another indicates a fundamental disagreement with how God is running things.**



## **PRINCIPLE #2**

***“Seeking forgiveness is a prerequisite to worship”***

# MATTHEW 5:21-22

**23** Therefore if you bring your **gift** to the altar, and there remember that your brother has **something against you;**

**24** Leave your gift before the altar, and go your way; first **be reconciled to your brother,** and then come and offer your gift.



# **APPLICATIONS**

- **Do not compartmentalize.**
- **Do not denigrate the image of God.**



## **PRINCIPLE #3**

***“Sins against another are a form of debt that must be resolved.”***



# MATTHEW 5:25-26

**25** Agree with your **adversary** **quickly**, while you are on the way with him; lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be **thrown into prison**.

**26** Assuredly, I say to you, 'You will by no means get out of there, **till you have paid the last penny**.'



# **APPLICATIONS**

- **Think about your sins before thinking of others'. Get forgiveness before worrying about giving it.**
- **Your sins are a debt. Act, now!**
- **This kind of humility comes from confessing sins to God.**