

A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's legs walking on a wet, reflective surface, likely a beach or a wet pavement, during sunset. The water is shimmering with golden light, and the person's legs are silhouetted against the bright background. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

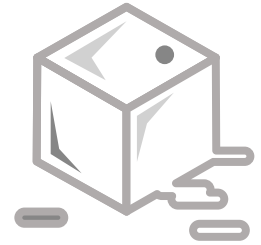
“Jesus, **why?**”

WEEK OF MARCH 30, 2025

Why Did You Tell Me to Forgive Everyone, Jesus?

SPEAKER: PASTOR MIKE BURNETTE

ICEBREAKER



WHAT IS A PIECE OF ADVICE THAT YOU
WOULD GO BACK AND TELL YOUR
YOUNGER SELF?

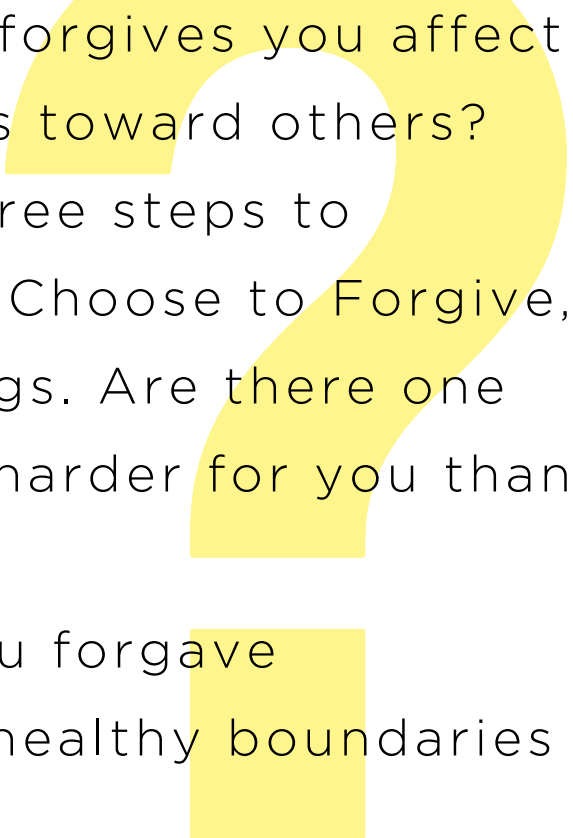
INTRODUCTION:

- What is something you've said in the past that you regret?
- If Jesus said it, you can trust it, you can believe it, you can obey it, and you can know that it is good for you. Is there one of these that you struggle with more than the others?
- Share where you are in accepting and understanding the fullness of God's forgiveness.
- How many gifts have I offered to the Lord that he hasn't accepted, because I was harboring unforgiveness towards someone while still worshiping and giving at church?
- Read Colossians 3:13. What can make it difficult to make allowance for other people's faults?

OBSTACLES OF FORGIVENESS

- Some obstacles to forgiveness are a demand for reconciliation, demand for their repentance, our offence is an exception, pride or vengeance, and just not wanting to. Which of these do you struggle with the most?

HOW TO FORGIVE... LIKE JESUS TOLD US TO!

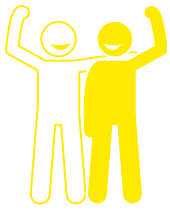
- How does knowing that God forgives you affect the way you view forgiveness toward others?
 - Pastor Mike said there are three steps to walking in forgiveness: Pray, Choose to Forgive, and Follow Jesus, Not Feelings. Are there one of those steps that makes it harder for you than others?
 - Can you name a time that you forgave someone, and had to create healthy boundaries in that relationship?
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ACT ON IT



ENCOURAGE

There is nothing God can't forgive you for. There is nothing that God can't help me forgive in others. Forgiveness is a choice, and it's not dependent on the other person changing, and it is not the same as reconciliation. Forgiveness is not about the other person, it's about you and your heart.



ASK

What is something you need to ask God to forgive you for?



CHALLENGE

The Lord forgave us of unpayable amounts of sin and that is what he expects from us. Forgiveness is a choice, we choose to release anyone owing you. A true mark of forgiveness is you can bless the person who offended you. Choose today to forgive. Choose today to bless anyone who offended you.

PRAYER

Father, would you help me? I need you, Oh Lord. Your words are burning my heart because I am struggling to practice forgiveness—the deep forgiveness that my heart will not forget. Yet even though I am hurt, I still choose to forgive through you. I chose to be embraced by your love rather than your judgment. Help me resolve my heart; help me to be more like you.

Lord, I am a forgiver because I am forgiven; my heart belongs to you. I love you, Lord. - Amen