

## The Three Paths of Biblical Forgiveness

1. Fully receiving God's forgiveness for the sins we have committed against Him
2. Effectively forgiving the people who sin against us
3. Sincerely asking the people we have sinned against to forgive us

## Practicing the Three Paths of Forgiveness Leads to:

- Emotional healing
- Freedom from self-condemnation
- Peace with God
- Restoration of broken relationships
- Improving good relationships
- Overcoming compulsive behaviors
- Feeling loved by God and others
- Making better decisions
- Sincere love for God and others
- Improved physical health
- Reduction of demonic influences
- Stronger families
- More effective teamwork

*All sins damage the human soul and damage relationships.*

*Practicing all aspects of forgiveness is how God heals the human soul and restores relationships.*

**Forgiveness**  
MINISTRIES

*Restoring Lives and Relationships through Forgiveness*

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# Focus on Forgiveness



A  
Brief  
Overview  
of  
Biblical  
Forgiveness

Presented by  
**Forgiveness**  
MINISTRIES

## Every sin has two sides.

- A penalty
- Many consequences

### Forgiveness also has two sides.

#### side one

### Personal Forgiveness

is *releasing* someone from having to *pay the penalty* for their own sins in light of the fact that *Jesus Christ has already paid for their sins in full through His physical execution.*

*"... and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."*  
Hebrews 9:22

*"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."*  
John 1:29

#### side two

### Relational Forgiveness

is reducing the negative consequences of a sin appropriate to the guilty person's level of repentance.

*"If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him."*  
Luke 17:3

*"...for the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation..."*  
2 Corinthians 7:10

## The Six Basic Steps of PERSONAL FORGIVENESS



**1. Identify** the sin and the person responsible for it—  
*See what God sees*



**2. Feel** the reality of the sin—  
*Feel what God feels*



**3.** Acknowledge God's just **penalty** for this sin—  
**Condemn** *what God condemns*



**4.** Embrace the **execution of Jesus** as the full and just **payment** for the sin—  
*Accept what God accepts*



**5. Communicate** with the appropriate person

- 1st and 2nd paths with God
- 3rd path with the person you sinned against

*Speak what God would have you speak*



**6. Love:** Receive God's love and love others—  
*Love as God loves*

## The Six Principles of RELATIONAL FORGIVENESS



**1.** Practice all three paths of **Personal Forgiveness**



**2.** Let the guilty person's level of **repentance** guide the process



**3.** Let **real change** verify authentic repentance



**4.** Follow through with *appropriate* **consequences**



**5.** Establish *God-authorized* **boundaries**



**6.** Evaluate progress and **adjust** the consequences and boundaries as *appropriate*