

PATHWAY TO PEACE

Throughout life, we all face moments of hurt, disappointment, betrayal, and misunderstanding. These trials often test our hope and faith, but they also bring powerful opportunities for healing and growth, rooted in the example and teachings of Jesus.

Forgiveness is one of the greatest gifts God has given us. It reflects His boundless grace and is not only something we extend to others—it is a transformative act that frees our own hearts and minds. Through Christ's life and the Scriptures, we learn that forgiveness allows us to let go of the burdens we carry and embrace the peace that comes with moving forward, anchored in His love. It's one of the most challenging, yet deepening, aspects of faith.

Every day, we are faced with the choice to cultivate this spiritual discipline. At times, we'll face obstacles that we cannot navigate alone as we strive to grow in our faith and forgiveness. This devotional, titled *Pathway to Peace*, is designed to help you on this journey. With ten thought-provoking questions, it invites you to reflect on your own experiences, examine your heart, and consider how forgiveness can reshape your relationships and draw you closer to God. Each question is paired with Scripture to guide you in assessing whether you're progressing toward true, healthy forgiveness, while embracing God's image in your life.

As we embark on this path together, I encourage you to open your heart to the transformative power of Christ's forgiveness. Let's seek to understand how His grace empowers us to heal and to extend mercy, reflecting His love in our everyday lives.

May these questions and Scriptures inspire you to take bold steps toward healing, not only for yourself but also for those around you. Together, let's uncover the beauty and freedom that come from fully embracing forgiveness in Christ. My prayer is that this devotional will help you grow in faith, heal through forgiveness, and walk more closely with God.

With Hope and Peace, In Jesus' Name,

Greg Hendricks

10 questions on forgiveness

Luke 6:37 - "Judge not and you will not be judge, condemn not, and you will not be condemned, forgive and you will be forgiven

1 Can you think of them without thinking of the hurt they caused in your life?

Ephesians 4:31-32 - "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

2 Have you been wanting to get revenge?

Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

3 Are you silently looking for this person or their lives to fail?

1 Corinthians 10:24 - "Let no man seek his own, but each his neighbor's good."

Are you willing to be reconciled if they are?

2 Corinthians 5:18 - "All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation"

5 Can you pray for this person or the people that hurt you?

Luke 6:28 - "Bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you."

10 questions on forgiveness

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6 Are you obsessed with making them understand how you feel or what they did to you?

Proverbs 14:29 - "Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly."

7 Are you keeping score of their offenses towards you?

1 Corinthians 13:5 - "(Love) It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs."

8 Are you holding your growth hostage by an apology you're not receiving?

1 Peter 3:9 - "Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing."

Are you replaying the moment of offense over and over in your mind or heart?

Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

10 Are you gossiping about them?

Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Closing Prayer

Lord I come before you with a grateful heart, thanking you for the journey of forgiveness I have explored in this devotional.

I rejoice in the wisdom gained and the healing found, as I reflected on ten questions that will continue to lead me closer to Your heart.

God, as I conclude my journey in this devotional, I am reminded of Your Word in Ephesians 4:32, which encourages me to "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Help me to continually carry this truth in my heart and live it out daily in my life. I understand that I am maturing in this process. May your presence and your scripture strengthen me, as I continue to develop this spiritual discipline in my walk with you.

Lord, may the lessons learned here empower me to extend grace to myself and others.

May I find peace in the act of forgiveness, knowing that it brings me closer to you.

As I move forward, grant me the strength to walk this path, embracing the transformative power of your love.

Thank you for your boundless mercy and the gift of forgiveness. May I continue to grow in faith and become a vessel of Your Grace in a world that desperately needs it.

In Jesus' name, I pray,

Amen.

CONCLUSION

Dear Friends,

Congratulations on completing *Pathway to Peace*! I want to take a moment to celebrate your courage and obedience as you've journeyed through these 10 questions on forgiveness.

Life often brings hurt and disappointment, whether from circumstances or people, but within these moments lies an incredible opportunity for healing and growth. As we've learned, forgiveness isn't just a transaction; it's a divine gift that transforms us from the inside out, offering peace that only Christ can provide. Each question challenged us to look inward, seeking to embody forgiveness in our relationships and within ourselves, ultimately drawing us closer to God.

As you move forward, I encourage you to continue applying these lessons. Make forgiveness a daily practice—whether toward others or yourself—knowing that it reflects God's boundless grace and is a powerful tool for healing. My prayer is that you embrace this journey of growth, deepening your understanding of forgiveness and its transformative power.

Keep your heart open to Christ's love, and let His grace guide you as you navigate your relationships. You are not alone; God walks with you every step of the way, supporting you as you extend mercy and compassion.

May you carry the beauty and freedom of forgiveness into your daily life, leading to deeper peace and joy in your walk with Christ.

In Hope and Peace,

Greg Hendricks

Pathway to	Peace	Notes	DATE	/	/



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