

Forgiving others is required for God to forgive us (see below).

Matthew 6:9-15 NASB1995 [9] “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is 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.** [13] And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.>] [14] For **if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. [15] But if you do not forgive others, then your father will not forgive your transgressions.**

In the Lord’s prayer (Matthew 6:9-15) we can see that Jesus emphasizes forgiving others is required for God to forgive us. Jesus mentions it twice so it’s a very important concept, because if we don’t get God’s forgiveness then we end up in hell.

Pastor Daniel Ekechukwu’s testimony is a very powerful testimony regarding unforgiveness and how it prevents us from receiving God’s forgiveness. One morning his wife slapped him, and he left the house angry plotting how he was going to get even with her, when he suddenly died in a car accident. An angel told him he was on his way to hell and the pastor argued that he had preached all over Nigeria and why would he be going to hell. The angel said it was because of unforgiveness towards his wife and plotting revenge instead of forgiving. The angel said God was going to send him back to earth to warn people about the importance of forgiving others. Pastor Daniel Ekechukwu of Nigeria was dead for 42 hours and embalmed, but his organs were not removed. He was raised from the dead in a Reinhard Bonnke meeting. Further information is available on YouTube and the internet.

Matthew 18:23-35 AMPC. [23] Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a human king who wished to settle accounts with his attendants. [24] When he began the accounting, one was brought to him who owed him 10,000 talents [probably about \$10,000,000], [25] And because he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and his children and everything that he possessed, and payment to be made. [26] So the attendant fell on his knees, begging him, have patience with me and I will pay you everything. [27] And his master's heart was moved with compassion, and he released him and forgave him [cancelling] the debt. [28] But that same attendant,

as he went out, found one of his fellow attendants who owed him a hundred denarii [about twenty dollars]; and he caught him by the throat and said, pay what you owe! [29] So his fellow attendant fell down and begged him earnestly, give me time, and I will pay you all! [30] But he was unwilling, and he went out and had him put in prison till he should pay the debt. [31] When his fellow attendants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and told everything that had taken place to their master. [32] Then his master called him and said to him, You contemptible and wicked attendant! I forgave and cancelled all that [great] debt of yours because you begged me to. [33] And should you not have had pity and mercy on your fellow attendant, as I had pity and mercy on you? [34] **And in wrath his master turned him over to the torturers (the jailers), till he should pay all that he owed. [35] So also My heavenly Father will deal with every one of you if you do not freely forgive your brother from your heart his offenses.**

The evil spirits will torment you causing you to rehearse and rehearse the offense until you forgive the person who did you wrong. After forgiving the person, the tormentors (evil spirits) will leave you and you will feel a spiritual weight or burden lift off you. I have experienced it many times.

Unforgiveness is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die. Unforgiveness only hurts you. The other person is off enjoying life while you are held captive to rehearsing the memory of what happened. Doesn't make sense, just let it go. Jesus paid the full price on the cross for that person's sin against you, whatever it was. I always ask God to help me forgive from the bottom of my heart to get all the unforgiveness completely out.

I remember hearing a testimony of one man's mom who was murdered at a young age, when he was only a boy. The killer only got 12 years in jail. He felt that this was not justice and planned to wait 12 years until the guy got out of prison and then kill him.

The man was not a Christian at the time of his mother's murder, but became a Christian several years later, but still planned on executing his mom's killer. He said the Holy Ghost kept wrestling with him not to do it, but he was still going to do it.

Finally, he said one day he heard the internal audible voice of the Lord say, “you murdered my son, and I forgave you” and that’s when he realized it was our sin in Jesus’s sinless body on the cross(1Pet2:24) that murdered him. He broke down and forgave his mom’s killer.