

Break the Chains: Experiencing the Freedom of Forgiveness!
Matthew 6:9-13
PRAY! Pt. 4
Sunday, January 25, 2026

Matthew 6:9, “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, **10** your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **11** Give us today our daily bread. **12** And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. **13** And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

Psalm 139:23, Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. **24** See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 32:3, When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. **4** For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. **5** Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

1 Peter 5:7, Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

How to Experience the Freedom of Forgiveness:

1. Receive God's FORGIVENESS: Confession Breaks the Chain of Guilt

Matthew 6:12, ... forgive us our debts...

1 John 1:9, If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalm 103:10, he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. **11** For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; **12** as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Romans 8:1, Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

2. Release OTHERS: Forgiveness Breaks the Chain of Bitterness

Matthew 6:12, ... as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Ephesians 4:31, Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. **32** Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Matthew 18:21, Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” **22** Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. **23** “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. **24** As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. **25** Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. **26** “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ **27** The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. **28** “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. **29** “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ **30** “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. **31** When

the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. **32** “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. **33** Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ **34** In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. **35** “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Hebrews 12:15, See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

3. Walk in FREEDOM: Forgiven People Are Free People

Colossians 3:13, Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Psalm 103:12, as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!