

# Forgiveness

## God's Grace-2

### Discuss It:

God's standards of right and wrong are a result of His nature. Discuss God's nature

God cannot arbitrarily change His standards because of His nature. The standard to be accepted into God's family and to have fellowship with Him is a part of His standard. Discuss our inability to meet God's standard.

### Dig In:

#### Our Legal System

If a person is \_\_\_\_\_ of a serious crime, such as a felony, they lose their civil rights.

These rights can be \_\_\_\_\_ through the granting of a \_\_\_\_\_ by a Governor or by the President.

A pardon is not conditional upon \_\_\_\_\_. It is also not an indication of innocence. It simply means the person does not have to pay the \_\_\_\_\_ for the offense; there are no legal or civil consequences.

In God's system of \_\_\_\_\_ we lost our citizenship. Sin resulted in the forfeiture of our rights to enter the kingdom of God. Like a Governor, God has the power to \_\_\_\_\_ those who are guilty,

Unlike our system of justice, God's system, because of His \_\_\_\_\_, requires that we must be sinless. God's nature will not allow Him to simply \_\_\_\_\_ our sin. But once sin

has been paid for, nothing hinders our relationship with God.

Our sin, and debt that resulted left us in a position wherein we need both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Bad News/Good News

In God's system of justice neither the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin nor the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin is mentioned. That is because both are irrelevant.

These are the two things that most people \_\_\_\_\_ with, as they question God's willingness or ability to \_\_\_\_\_ us.

\_\_\_\_\_ is in the same boat in terms of separation from God. \_\_\_\_\_ this will help us to accept God's forgiveness.

Romans 5:18-19 lumps everybody into one of two categories, \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. God does not mention quantity or quality of sins.

We also see that by one man (Adam) we were all made \_\_\_\_\_, by one man (Christ) we were made \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Paid in Full**

Christ had the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ our indebtedness by assuming our debt and paying the penalty that was required.

Forgiveness is the way in which God made us alive. Forgiveness, then, is the \_\_\_\_\_ of our debt.

Forgiveness of sin comes through Christ. And that includes all sins, past, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

That is why Paul could say in Colossians 2:13, all trespasses.

He did not need to know how many or how bad the sins. All he needed to know was that they had \_\_\_\_\_ God for forgiveness through Christ.

We are all \_\_\_\_\_ apart from Christ, and we can all be \_\_\_\_\_ through Him.

If you still have doubts about God's forgiveness, then its obvious you are thinking about God's forgiveness according to \_\_\_\_\_ standard of forgiveness.

The guilt you continue to carry because of past sins is unnecessary. You must accept the truth about your \_\_\_\_\_ as well as your present \_\_\_\_\_ state.

**You are forgiven!!**

## **The Bottom Line**

**Christ is God's solution for dealing with sin. Only through Christ can we find forgiveness. But once it has been found, it is a settled issue—past sin, present sin, and future sin. The details of what we have done, why we did it, and how many times we did it are irrelevant. Sin is sin; lost is lost; paid is paid; forgiven is forgiven. Either we have it, or we don't.**

**Are there sins from your past that continue to hang over you like a dark cloud? When you pray, does something inside you cause you to doubt that God is going to listen to you because of your past? Do you feel that your potential for the kingdom of God has been destroyed because of your past disobedience? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you have not yet come to grips with God's solution to your sin. You are still holding on to a way of thinking that will keep you in bondage the rest of your life. You have set yourself up to live a defeated life in which you will never reach your potential for the kingdom of God.**

**I want you to be free. More important, God wants you to be free. And because He does, He sacrificed what was dearest to Him. His only Son!**

**Portions of this lesson have been gleaned from "The Gift of Forgiveness" by Charles Stanley**