

Connecting with God

Prayer of Release

Matthew 6:12

Pastor Brian

Matthew 6 ¹² *Forgive us our sins... as we have forgiven those who sin (trespass) against us. (NIV)*

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." (NIV)*

WHY MUST I RELEASE THOSE WHO HAVE HURT ME?

Matthew 18 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." (NIV)*

1. Because **GOD FORGIVES ME.**

Ephesians 4 ³² *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (NIV)*

Matthew 18 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." (NIV)*

2. Because resentment **ONLY HURTS ME.**

Matthew 18 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?'" (NIV)*

Hebrews 12 ¹⁵ *Guard against turning back from the grace of God. Let no one become like a bitter plant that grows up and causes many troubles with its poison. (GNT)*

3. Because I need **FORGIVENESS DAILY.**

Matthew 18 ³⁵ *"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart." (NIV)*

Matthew 6 ¹⁴ *For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. (NIV)*

4. Because I want **TO BE LIKE CHRIST.**

1 John 2 ⁶ *Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did. (NIV)*

Romans 6 ⁶ *We know that our old life died with Christ on the cross so that our sinful selves would have no power over us and we would not be slaves to sin. (NCV)*

Action Step:

Release whoever has hurt you.