

Practical Theology – Lesson 20 – “Forgiving Others”

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The Mandate to Forgive

- Matthew 6:9-15 (12, 14-15) – The Lord’s Prayer
 - I John 1:8-10
 - Note this is regarding our walk, not salvation
 - Relates unforgiveness as sin
- Matthew 5:21-24 – Context – Angry with your brother
- Matthew 5:38-42 – Context – Giving up our rights for others
- Matthew 5:43-48 – Context – Love our enemies
 - Romans 5:8, 10 as God loved His enemies

Jesus starts with Family

- Matthew 5:21 should be taken as a literal brother, but easily applies to broader circle of family, friends, other Christians.
- Matthew 5:22 makes a distinction of contempt vs hatred, in terms of variations of judgment think of the first as slander, and the second as being equated to murder.
- Example of Fathers

Jesus continues with Enduring Abuse and Actual Enemies

- The shirt/tunic would be a neighbor
- The mile would be a Roman soldier
- Compare to Romans 12:17-21
- Examples of Atheistic USMC Sgt, hostile coworkers

Jesus concludes The Lord’s Prayer with this

- Matthew 12, 14-15 – Forgive, or we will not be forgiven
- Matthew 5:23-24 – Leave the altar, reconcile, then return to altar
- Psalm 66:18 (16-20) Sin interrupts Prayer

Other Passages to Consider

- Ephesians 4:31-32
- Colossians 3:12-14