

The Lord's Prayer – 5th Petition Bible Study Guide

The final three petitions of the Lord's Prayer deal with matters of the _____:

- Forgiveness of sins
- Victory over temptation
- Deliverance from evil

The Fifth Petition:

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

When we pray this petition of the Lord's Prayer, we confess that we are _____ in need of God's _____.

1 John 1:8-10

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

- What happens to our spiritual lives if we do *not* confess our sinfulness to God?
- What happens to our spiritual lives when we do confess our sinfulness to God?

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

³ And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴ At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. ⁵ “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."

⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

- What is Isaiah's initial response when he realizes he is in the presence of the holy God (v. 5)?
- What does God, through the seraph (angel), do for Isaiah (vv. 6-7)?
- What is Isaiah's response to the goodness and mercy of God (v. 8)?

Those who have received God's mercy will be _____ toward others.

Those who have been forgiven by God will be _____ toward others.

*"Grace is like that vast lake in the mountains, crystal clear, shimmering in the golden sunshine,
and as pure as melted snow can be, unadulterated and uncontaminated.*

*Grace Lake, however, is oceanic in size; it is unlimited, for no drought can empty it,
nor can any thirst dry it up...*

*This vast sea of grace came into being because Jesus, lifted upon the towering cross of Calvary,
lovingly gave His life for you and me and everyone everywhere for all time...*

It is not a hidden sea, this ocean of forgiveness.

We know where it is and how to receive its life-giving waters.

*All we need to do is ask for it; and, in Christ's name and because of Jesus' triumph,
it is ours."*

RICHARD ANDERSEN

- How is Christ's forgiveness toward us like an "oceanic lake"?
- How do we receive this grace and forgiveness of Jesus?
- How can we lead others toward the limitless forgiveness that Jesus freely offers?

To "trespass" is to _____.

When we trespass against God, we walk across the boundary; we go where we should not go.

All sin is a trespass against God. But sin also affects people around us.

Therefore, forgiveness must be _____.

What are 6 of the hardest words in the English language to say?

What are 3 words that can often be just as hard (if not harder) to say?

Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

- What was Joseph's attitude toward the hurt his brothers inflicted on him (vv. 19-20; cf. Romans 8:28)?
- What was Joseph's attitude toward his brothers (v. 21)?
- In what way is Joseph a "picture" of Jesus and His attitude toward us?

When we forgive others, we show in our lives that we _____ God has forgiven us.

Look at this passage from the *Large Catechism*:

For just as God in His grace forgives everything by which we sin much against Him every day, so we also must constantly forgive our neighbor who does us harm, violence, and injustice, treats us with abominably shabby tricks, and the like. If you do not forgive, do not imagine that God will forgive you...

But you are forgiven not on account of the forgiveness you granted to your neighbor, for God forgives completely and for nothing, out of pure grace and because He promised it.

Matthew 18:21-35

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.”

- How does the wicked servant demonstrate an *unforgiven* and *unforgiving* heart?
- Is the king justified in punishing the wicked servant? Why or why not?
- How does Christ’s limitless love and forgiveness toward you strengthen you to live in love and forgiveness toward others?