

Mother's Day Forgiveness

Ephesians 6:2 "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:

- I believe that one of the most important things you can do to honor your mother is to forgive her completely.

Colossians 3:12-14 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. ¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

- This passage is mainly focused on forgiving. It actually comes out of a section from Colossians focused on our character as a new person in Christ.
- It is easy to get focused on the list of things to do – be merciful, kind, meek, patient, bearing with each other. And then forgive others as Christ forgave you.
- But this list is only possible if we start where Paul started this list. Therefore, as the elect of God.
- In vs. 10 (**Colossians 3:10** and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him) he says we have put on the new man who is renewed.
 - What does that mean? We have been made righteous. We have been united with Christ. We are the image of God in His likeness.

But then he says to forgive. I believe that all of the aforementioned traits cannot be considered characteristics of a believer if they are not willing to forgive others.

But specifically, it says to forgive **as** Christ forgave you. What does that mean? How did Christ forgive us?

- **Romans 5:8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- **Mark 2:1-5** And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. ² Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door.

And He preached the word to them. ³ Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.”

- How did Christ forgive him?
- What did this man do to earn his forgiveness?
- Forgiveness is not based on right or wrong. Christ does not consider what people do when forgiving them. He forgave us completely by Grace without considering the right or wrong, or how deserving we were.
- God’s forgiveness is not conditional
- But His forgiveness came at a price. His own life. Grace is not free. It is free to us, but it cost God His Son’s life.
 - Our forgiveness of others may also cost us. And we cannot take into account whether or not they deserve it, if what they did was wrong, or how often they are wrong.
 - Forgiveness has nothing to do with right or wrong, it has to do with the life of Christ.

I believe that true forgiveness, forgiveness that does not weigh right and wrong, and that forgives even if it costs, and forgives even the undeserving without noting they are undeserving, is not possible without Christ.

That’s why this passage of Colossians starts with ridding ourselves of the old man and putting on the new man:

Colossians 3:1-15 If then **you were raised with Christ**, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. **2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life** appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. **5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth:** fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. **6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. 8**

But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since **you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, 11** where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but **Christ is all and in all. 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved,** put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; **even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.** 14 But above all these things **put on love, which is the bond of perfection.** 15 And **let the peace of God rule in your hearts,** to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

Most women here are the moms – we don't have too many youths to speak to, so you have already been raised and are on your own.

But honoring your mom does not stop when you leave home and forgiving your mom becomes actually even more critical as you are living your life not under your parents authority.

Mom's do the best they can with what they have.

No one is ready for it, and everyone feels inadequate.

We receive blessings, but also wounds. The ratio may depend on your situation.

And the good news is, God can heal any wound. If you are still speaking in to your children's lives, teach them to go to God for full healing.

Do not feel condemned. It is being in this world. God made provision for us in this.

Wounds

- Judging – critical, never good enough. (**Proverbs 18:21** Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit). It's always your fault. Hurtful comments.
- Abandonment issues – not being there in whatever way. Children do not know how to interpret and may misinterpret pure intentions.

- Lack of protection – abuse, spiritual, mental or did not believe you about someone else, or just unaware.
- Not trusting or believing in you
- Taking sides.
- Unapproachable
- Rage or anger
- Not being a good character role model, or setting boundaries
- Did not teach how to relate to men or women properly
- Withholding love
- Self-centered mother

It's not likely these wounds were intentional. But if there is any unforgiveness in us, we should still forgive. Go through the process of forgiving, even if you have said to yourself, "I know she didn't mean it."

If you find yourself blaming your mother for something that is a bad pattern in your life, forgive her for that. Healing begins when you take personal responsibility for your problems and do not seek to blame others for them.

Mother's blessing

I am going to ask Diane to come up. Receive what she is going to pronounce over you. Ask the Holy Spirit if there is anything you need to forgive.

A Mother's Blessing

A mother's assignment is to nurture, to love, to tend, to treasure, and to teach her children.

First, I cancel every negative word spoken over you and I break the generational curse of an orphan mindset off of you, in Jesus' name.

Maybe your mother was wonderful, maybe she wasn't.

Perhaps she abandoned you, or abused you: sexually, physically, verbally, or emotionally.

Maybe she died before you were ready, or left you for some other reason.

Maybe she made you her idol, delighting in you so much that you haven't been able to break away to be your own person.

Perhaps she made you the scapegoat for all her troubles, so that you suffered for things other people did to her which frightened, hurt, or angered her.

Maybe she came between you and your father, or continually forced you to choose sides. Maybe she placed you between herself and her husband; maybe she didn't protect you from him.

Perhaps she blamed you for things that were not your fault at all.

Maybe she insisted that you "mother" her instead of her "mothering" you. And maybe you felt important about that and did not realize you were becoming trapped and overwhelmed, and since then you have been running on empty, not knowing what you need or want.

Perhaps she left you in the care of hurtful, dangerous people. Maybe she didn't see or believe you when you went to her for help. Perhaps she was just too busy to see anything you wanted or needed then. I really don't know.

If you are willing to hear the words of a wounded mother speaking to you, please close your eyes for a few minutes.

I realize I am not your mother, but please allow me to stand in for her and in the place of your mother, who may or may not have said any of these things, please allow yourself to hear these words:

My dear child, I know that the Scriptures command you to honor me; I want you to know that you will honor me best by becoming and being all the Lord intends you to be. I ask the Lord to richly bless you.

I ask the Lord Jesus Christ by the power of His cross and blood to set you free now from any harsh or cruel words that I said, especially the ones you keep remembering over and over. I am so sorry.

I ask the Lord to set you free from heart injuries you sustained from me or from others in whose care I placed you. I ask the Holy Spirit to set you free from heartache, disappointments, dread, grief, or rage you cannot resolve.

I'm so sorry for any other struggles I may have caused you. May you be healed from being ignored by me or smothered by me.

If I ever made you feel less than or not good enough, I am deeply sorry and ask you to please forgive me. May the Lord set you free from working so hard to please me when nothing ever would. May the Lord set you free from trying to get from me what I never had to give you. I am so sorry.

May the Lord set you free from blaming me for failing you, not because I need that, but so you can be free to grow, to receive, to achieve, and to be creative in ways you have not yet imagined. May the Lord give you all the things I was unable or unwilling to give you.

May the Lord guide you in ways I never could and grant you peace. May the Lord free you from any of my grief, fear, terror, anger, dread, and expectations you are still trying to live up to.

May the Lord free you from feeling that you have to always be perfect or that you have to be what I expected you to be.

I pray that God will help you to see that the hurt and pain I caused you came from my own childhood. It limited me, and I am so sorry if it has limited you.

I pray that God will remove from you any belief that you were not wanted or loved.

I pray that you have no doubt that you are the gender you are supposed to be.

Please forgive me for not nurturing you. I pray that the Lord will release you from any unhealthy bond that you may have with me. I want you to keep all of the good that came from me, and give the rest to God.

My beloved son, my precious daughter—I love you. I am so proud of you.
I am so glad you were born. Be released now to be the person that God created you to be. Be free, my love, and live!
I, now, bless all your days with righteousness, peace and joy.
I bless you with the revelation knowledge of your Heavenly Father's love for you.
I bless you with a heart of a good son or daughter.
I bless you with prosperity and great success in all you put your hands to do.
I bless you with caring friends and good business sense.
I bless you with integrity and a heart of honor.
I bless you with an obedient, merciful, humble and loving heart.
I bless you with courage, perseverance, and relentless pursuit of His presence.
I bless you with spiritual insight and an understanding of His ways.
I bless you with a nurturing and compassionate heart.
I bless you with a long and healthy life.
I bless you with a tender spirit and an understanding nature.
I bless you with a loving and considerate spouse and healthy, obedient children.
I bless you with wisdom, discernment and patience in training your children.
I bless you with the desire and delight to seek Him first.
May you be quick to forgive and slow to anger.
May you know Father God is with you wherever you go.
May your life be a delight to others as they are drawn to God within you.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.