

# The Cross and Forgiveness

## Forgiveness is:

Forgiveness is love in action!

*“This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him.<sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”*  
1 John 4:9,10

*“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that He lavished on us.”*  
- Ephesians 1:7,8

## The Measure of Forgiveness:

*“According to the riches of His grace.”*

1. The Measure of Forgiveness is not the character of the sinner, but the character of the one offended.

*“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. For **His mercy endures forever.**”*  
- Psalm 136:1

*“David said, “I am in deep distress. Let me fall into the hands of the LORD, for **His mercy is very great; but do not let me fall into human hands.**”*

- 1 Chronicles 21:13

2. The Measure of Forgiveness is not according to our conception of God’s mercy.

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,”  
declares the LORD.*

*“As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”*

- Isaiah 55:8,9

3. The Measure of Forgiveness is not limited to the amount of sin committed.

*“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?”*

*Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy times seven.”*

- Matthew 18:21,22

4. The Measure of Forgiveness is not limited to the time in which we have sinned.

*“Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”*

*Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”*

- Luke 23:42,43

5. The Measure of Forgiveness is not according to the bitterness felt by the sinner.

*“God’s **kindness** is intended to lead you to repentance.”* - Romans 2:4

6. The Measure of Forgiveness from God is free and total.

*“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified **freely** by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”*

- Romans 3,23,24

*“For the wages of sin is death, but the **gift of God** is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

- Romans 6:23

*“The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the **free gift** of the water of life.”*

- Revelation 22:17

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