

*Forgiveness is a right,
restoration is a responsibility*

September 10

When Jesus gave His life on the cross of Calvary, he purchased us from sin and we were given access to forgiveness. Forgiveness, if you will, is a right. Even when we disappoint others, they are commanded to forgive us. Furthermore, the Bible tells us that if we confess our sins to God, He is faithful to forgive us of our sins, thereby promising forgiveness to those who ask. When we forgive someone, which is their right, it means that we no longer desire to see them punished for their offense. We cease to pursue retribution, recompense, or otherwise retaliate for that offense. Forgiveness is a right. However, restoration is a responsibility. You may forgive someone or be forgiven by someone without the relationship being fully restored. Restoration most often requires the offending party repent and make some honest attempt at restitution. Examine your relationships. Have you been forgiven? Have you been restored? What can you do about it?

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, give me the grace and power to forgive others when they offend me and help me to take every step necessary to be restored to others when I bring an offense and stand in need of forgiveness myself. Amen.

Scriptures for Today

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (KJV)

Luke 6:37 Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. (NKJV)

Psalms 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! (KJV)