

POWER OF FORGIVENESS

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But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. (2 Peter 1:9 NIV)

Four truths that will unleash the power of forgiveness in your life:

I. Everything you _____ arises out of who you _____.

A. Q: Who are you, _____?

Romans 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Ephesians 4:20-24 You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. 21 Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

B. You can't say "_____" to your essential nature.

II. ALL your _____ have been forgiven.

A. "ALL means _____ and that's ALL _____ means!"

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit,

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Romans 6:10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

Hebrews 7:27 Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

Heb 9:26-28 Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

27 Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, 28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

B. Even when you don't _____ like it!

Jeremiah 17:9 NIV The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Proverbs 28:26 NKJV He who trusts in his own heart is a fool...

III. The *real* you is _____ (in Christ).

A. You're essential being has been radically _____!

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

John 3:5-7 NIV Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying must be born again."

B. Your true _____ will affect how you live. You are.

1. _____ of God. (1John 3:1-2)
"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"
2. **A** _____ of God. (Eph. 1:1)
"Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:"
3. **God's** _____. (2 Cor .5:21)
"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become righteous of God."
4. Righteous & _____. (Eph. 4:24)
"and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."
5. God's _____. (Eph. 2:10)
"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."
6. Chosen, Royal Priesthood & Holy _____. (1 Peter 2:9)
"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into wonderful light."
7. New _____. (2 Cor. 5:17)
"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"
8. _____ by faith. (Phil. 3:9)
"Not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith."

C. Don't believe the _____!

"Remember _____ you are!"