

Forgiveness



By
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1st Saying (Luke 23:34)

**Then Jesus said,
“Father, forgive them, for they
do not know what they do.”**

His example teaches us:

- **That forgiveness is the greatest gift we can receive (Acts 8:39; Psa. 32)**
- **That forgiveness is a great gift to give (Eph. 4:32)**

What is Forgiveness?

- **It's not**
 - ◆ **Removing the offense totally from our mind**
 - ◆ **Restoring the relationship as it once was (Matt. 19:9)**

What is Forgiveness?

- **Forgiveness is:**
 - ◆ **Treating the other person as though they never hurt you**
 - ◆ **Giving up your right to hurt the offender**
 - ◆ **Never holding the offense against them any longer**

Why is it so hard to forgive?

- **Seems too easy! We want them to hurt like we have been hurt!**
- **But consider**
 - ◆ **Jesus' example**
 - ◆ **Jesus' teaching (Matt. 5:38-42)**

How Important?

- Consider Matt. 18:15 ff