



WORDS MATTER: Forgiveness

What the words we use truly mean.

Opening Prayer:

All merciful Father, all our sins against you are forgiven by you in Christ. Turn us to forgive those who sin against us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Q: How is the word "forgiveness" used in daily life? What do people mean when they say they forgive someone?

Q: What is your definition of forgiveness?

Q: What is our culture's definition(s) of forgiveness?

Q: How does the dictionary define what it means to forgive?

Q: In order to understand forgiveness rightly, we must understand God's own forgiveness. What does Isaiah 59:1-2 say about why forgiveness from God is needed?

Q: What does God promise regarding our sin in 1 John 1:9?

Q: If our sins are removed from us, where have they gone according to Colossians 2:13-14?

Q: What is the result of God's forgiveness according to 2 Corinthians 5:19?

Q: How does God's forgiveness affect the forgiveness we share with others according to Ephesians 4:32?

Q: How seriously are we to take our responsibility to forgive according to Matthew 6:14-15?

Q: So what things are essential to forgiveness?

Closing Prayer:

Almighty God, if you kept a record of sin, who could stand? But with you, there is forgiveness. May the same be said of us, your children. In Jesus' name. Amen.