

Christian Atheist: Forgiveness

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Definition: A Christian Atheist is someone who believes in God *but* lives as if He doesn't exist.

Titus 1:16a

- I believe in God *but* I don't really _____ Him.
- I believe in God *but* I don't really _____ Him.
- I believe in God *but* I don't really want to _____
_____ from the world around me.
- I believe in God *but* pursue _____
more than I pursue God.
- I believe in God *but* am unwilling to _____
people.

Psalm 55:12-14

1. We Sin Against God and We Wrong or Harm One Another

- Psalms 51:3-4
- When someone wrongs us, they are not answerable to us, they are _____.
- I am also answerable to God for my _____
to forgive.
- What God offers when He forgives is _____
from what I can offer.

2. What Forgiveness Is NOT and What Forgiveness IS

Forgiveness is NOT –

Forgiveness IS a -

- _____
- understanding _____
- avoiding _____
- _____ our anger _____
- tolerating _____
- _____
- condoning _____
- _____

3.a. Why Forgive

- It is costly to us if we _____.
- Failure to forgive keeps the hurt alive _____.
- Hebrews 12: 15 (Phillips Paraphrase)

3.b. Why Forgive

- Forgiveness is simply part of _____
and He tells us we need to do it. (Matthew 5:43-48)
- Forgiveness is _____ to and passing on what we
have already received from Christ. (Colossians 3:13)
- Failure to forgive tells us about our _____. (Matthew
18:20-35)

4. How Do We Forgive?

- It's not easy; it's a _____ that begins with
_____ on Christ.
- 1st Peter 2:21-23

Talk it over...with your friends, family, or Growth Group. *Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.*

- Reread the scriptures covered this week and see what God shows you. (Note: God might lead you in a different direction than was covered in the sermon, but that's okay. In fact, that's great!)
- What is your main "take-away" from this week?
- Why do you think there is such an emphasis on forgiveness in scripture?
- Who is someone you need to forgive? What has hindered you from stepping into the process? (Remember to get appropriate help if the issues seem too painful. Contact Joe if you need names of Christian counselors.)
- Who is someone you need to seek forgiveness from? Why do you think this would be important? What would hinder you from taking this step?
- Why do you think God had you here this morning?

CHRISTIAN ATHEIST



SERMON NOTES & STUDY GUIDE