

## *Forgive Others*



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as God in Christ forgave you. - Ephesians 4:32**

This verse tells us that we are to treat others the way God has treated us. So stop and think for a moment. How has God treated you? Can you think of some ways God has been kind to you? How has God been tenderhearted or compassionate to you? What are some ways you can be kind and tenderhearted to others?

If you are trusting in Christ as your Savior, perhaps the greatest gift God has given you is forgiveness. Here's what the Bible says about how God has forgiven you in Christ Jesus:

- ☆ God forgives you completely. He didn't just forgive some of your sins, he forgave them *all!*
- ☆ God forgives you immediately after you confess. He doesn't make you wait, he's eager to forgive.
- ☆ God forgives you without asking for guarantees that you will never do the same thing again. He will continue to forgive you even when you sin again in the same way.
- ☆ God's forgiveness can never be earned. His forgiveness is absolutely free. You can't pay him back.

Now here's the key to this verse. God wants to help us forgive others the way he has forgiven us. Here are four promises you can make to someone who has hurt you that will help you forgive as God has forgiven you:

1. I promise I will think good thoughts about you and do good for you.
2. I promise I will not bring up this situation to use against you.
3. I promise I will not talk to others about what you did (no gossip).
4. I promise I will be friends with you again.