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# Welcome to the ekklesia fellowship!

## Fellowship with the Father

### Soul Needs: Forgiveness

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## Soul Needs: Forgiveness

### The Pattern of Prayer: Luke 11:2-4

- Father!
- Holy is Your Name!
- Your Kingdom come!

- Daily bread (v. 3)
- Forgiveness (v. 4a)
- Temptation (v. 4b)

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## Soul Needs: Forgiveness

**Justification** (positional sanctification through Jesus: free gift)

**Sanctification** (fruit OF THE SPIRIT from within)

**Glorification** future perfection

**Justification**

- Romans 3:21-5:21
- The Cross: His death & blood
- An act done for us
- Removes the guilt and penalty of sin

**Sanctification**

- Romans 6-8
- The Resurrection: His Life
- A work done in us
- Removes the growth and the power of sin

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## Soul Needs: Forgiveness

Prayer is the expression of faith!

**me** (sin) → **me** (faith)

**2 Cor. 3:4-6**

**Heb. 12:2**

**Self-righteousness The Cross**

**Imputed righteousness The Resurrection**

**death**

**LIFE**

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## Soul Needs: Forgiveness

### The Pattern of Prayer: Soul Needs Acts 10:43

#### Forgiveness – complete canceling of mistakes made

- Think of the debilitating conditions of the soul:
  - Anxiety
  - Guilt (self-condemnation)
  - Fear
  - Depression
  - Bitterness & Anger
- In order to live life abundantly, we must have a cleansed conscience, a sense of peace, and we must be reconciled with God and with others. **1 John**
- God knew that we would end up with emotional clutter, and that it would take a deadly toll on us, so He created the path of cleansing forgiveness through prayer.

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Forgiveness – *complete canceling of mistakes made*

- No other way possible!
  - Maybe if I just work harder. NO
  - Maybe I just need to get into the Word. NO
  - Maybe I need to talk to my pastor. NO
- Forgiveness is the only path to the restoration of fellowship with the Father.
- And forgiveness comes only through confession!
  - 1 John 1:9 – “if we confess our sins”
  - Confess – to say the same thing about sin that God does.
- What is our ground for forgiveness?

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Forgiveness – *complete canceling of mistakes made*

- Ephesians 1:7-8a – God’s grace alone. That’s all.
  - “In Him we have redemption through His blood” Rom. 5:9
  - The basis of our forgiveness never has anything to do with us, but is always and purely on the fact that the shed blood of Jesus satisfied God’s demand of perfection!
  - Colossians 1:13,14 – because we are “in Christ,” we are forgiven, past present and future.
  - Our response: we simply come to Him thanking Him for what Jesus’ death on the cross has already done in taking away the awful burden of our sin.
  - What guilt? What fear?
  - Guilt is self-condemnation – Romans 8:1 “no condemnation” – do you know this?

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Forgiveness – *complete canceling of mistakes made*

- But it doesn’t stop here! Jesus immediately adds a limitation (because He wants us to thrive, not merely to survive): We cannot ask God to forgive our sins unless we are willing to forgive those who sin against us!
- We must now turn to those around us and forgive them for the small or big things they have done to us!
  - The story of the two Seas.
  - Do you really *know* that you are forgiven?
  - Who’s still chained to you right now?