



DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Over It

WEEK 2

FORGIVENESS HELPS YOU FORGIVE.

"O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive, so full of unfailing love for all who ask for your help."

PSALM 86:5 NLT

DAY 1

Did you know that God is eager to forgive you? And by eager, I mean He is excited, thrilled, and happy to forgive! That forgiveness was only made possible through what Jesus did for us on the cross. God made a way to give us forgiveness, and all we have to do is accept it. Accepting forgiveness is just as important as accepting someone's apology, because it allows us to move forward in freedom. Take a moment and dare to say aloud, "I accept your forgiveness, God. I don't want anything to block our relationship. Even though I make mistakes, Jesus helps me because your love never fails." Now, embrace a new start with God!

"But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."

ROMANS 5:8 NLT

DAY 2

Have you ever been able to forgive someone before they apologized? That takes a huge amount of strength! And it's exactly what Christ did for us. He loved us so much that He didn't even wait for us to get it right or have it all together. As a matter of fact, He died to give us His best forgiveness even when we're at our worst. His love made the first move! Who in your life could use that message of unconditional love and forgiveness? Talk to them about how you've experienced God's forgiveness in your life this week.

"We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters."

1 JOHN 3:16 NLT

DAY 3

Everyone has their own ideas about what love is. Whether we got it from the movies, our parents, or even our own experiences, we all have our own understanding of love. But one thing's for sure: Love almost always goes alongside giving. When you truly love someone, giving to them is easy. As a matter of fact, you want to give them your best! You don't want to see them in need or struggling, so you share or even sacrifice to give them whatever you can to help. That's real love, and it's exactly the way Jesus loves us. It's how He wants us to love each other, too. What does giving look like for you? Decide what you have to give others—time, possessions, encouragement—and make a point to give it away to show love to others this week.

"Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you."

EPHESIANS 4:32 NLT

DAY 4

As we know, it takes a small amount of light to get rid of the darkness. Our eyes are even trained to automatically expand in a dark room to find the light! The same is true with kindness. Just a small act of kindness can bring great light to tough circumstances around us. We show kindness by forgiving, looking at people with compassion, and treating them with respect. Just simple acts like that can bring a lot of light to someone's life. This week, look for opportunities to let kindness shine from your life. Make a point to be a light of kindness to all the people around you.

"Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty of our sins."

ROMANS 3:23-24 NLT

DAY 5

One of the best things about forgiveness is that it sets us free. From what? Well, from anger, guilt, frustration, sadness, shame, and so much more. When we receive forgiveness, we're set free from the weight of the wrongs we may have done to others. And when we extend forgiveness, we free ourselves from the frustration and hurt we're carrying. Jesus came to offer us the kind of forgiveness that brings freedom, and that's something worth celebrating. Say a prayer today, thanking God for the freedom and forgiveness you have because of Jesus.