

For the Week of January 4, 2026

“Forgive Us”

✠ Matthew 6:9-15

⁹“This is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,

¹⁰your kingdom come,
your will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹Give us today our daily bread.

¹²Forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.’

¹⁴For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Write down 5 significant observations. Raise 2 significant questions and try to answer them.

| Observations | Interpretation (Questions) | Applications |
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✠ Opening Questions:

- When you hear the word forgiveness, what emotions or thoughts come to mind?
- Why do you think Jesus connects being forgiven with forgiving others?
- Describe a time forgiveness (either receiving or giving it) felt costly or difficult.

✠ The Living Word: Please read our text for this week.

- Highlight words or phrases that stand out to you.
- Please narrate using your own words.

Verses 12–15

1. Understanding the Petition

- What is Jesus teaching us about the nature of sin when He uses the word “debt”?
- Why do we need to ask God for forgiveness daily? What does this reveal about our hearts?

2. God-Centered Confession

- Jesus tells us to confess — how does confession “let God be God” in your life?
- How does admitting our sin place God in His rightful place (holy, righteous, merciful) and us in ours (dependent, needy, forgiven)?

3. The Connection Between Receiving and Extending Forgiveness

- Why do you think Jesus ties God’s forgiveness of us to our forgiveness of others (verses: 12, 14–15)?
- How does forgiving others demonstrate that we truly understand and believe the gospel?
- What does our willingness—or unwillingness—to forgive reveal about the condition of our hearts?

4. The Kingdom Shape of Forgiveness

- How does forgiving others reflect the character of the King in verses 9–10?
- In what ways is forgiveness an act of trusting God’s justice rather than demanding our own?

✠ Living the Word/Application:

1. Personal Confession

- What sins, attitudes, or patterns do you most need to confess so God can be God in your life?
- How does regular confession reshape your view of yourself, your struggles, and God’s grace?

2. Extending Forgiveness

- Who is someone you are struggling to forgive right now? Why is it hard?
- How can remembering your own forgiveness in Christ soften your heart toward others?

3. Trusting God With Justice

- How does forgiveness invite you to trust God’s justice instead of taking it into your own hands?

4. Daily Practice

- How can you incorporate confession and forgiveness into your daily rhythm of prayer?