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Daily Prayer 13th August 2020

Good Morning

Let's be still, quiet and calm before we begin.....

Loving and forgiving God, we remember in your presence all whose lives are spoiled by hatred and the desire for revenge.
We pray for all who feel that they cannot be forgiven and who cannot forgive.
We ask your blessing upon all who are troubled in mind or spirit and all who are tempted to give up hope.
In Jesus name we pray. AMEN

Psalm 78:58-

For they provoked him to anger with their high places;
they moved him to jealousy with their idols.
When God heard, he was full of wrath,
and he utterly rejected Israel.
He abandoned his dwelling at Shiloh,
the tent where he dwelt among mortals,
and delivered his power to captivity,
his glory to the hand of the foe.
He gave his people to the sword,
and vented his wrath on his heritage.
Fire devoured their young men,
and their girls had no marriage song.
Their priests fell by the sword,
and their widows made no lamentation.

Matthew 18:21- 19:1

Forgiveness

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you

everything.” And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, “Pay what you owe.” Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan.

Reflection

At times, we all react as Peter did. Do we ask Jesus this very same question when someone has hurt us? At some point in our lives, all of us have had painful experiences at the hands of someone else. Forgiving that person is not easy, especially when we have been hurt deeply! However, we always have the choice to change our minds and our hearts and ask Jesus to give us the grace to want to forgive that person. When we are willing to try to forgive another, it may not only free them, but most likely it also will free us.

Today, ask yourself: whom do I need to forgive? It may be another person or it may be that we need to forgive ourselves for actions or choices that we are not proud of. Spend a few minutes reflecting on this question. Naturally, it is most helpful to ask for forgiveness, however, there are situations when we do have the opportunity or the courage to do this in person. If that is the case, speak your words of forgiveness aloud. More than likely the person will sense this..... Also, when you forgive another, you also will release the pain, hurt, or anger that you have been holding onto. Your forgiveness of another will change you and others. What a wondrous gift to give! AMEN

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. AMEN

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. AMEN

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. AMEN

Blessings and love
Vicky