

TALK IT OVER

Forgive Me

BOTTOM LINE

There is great power in learning to ask proactively and humbly, “Will you forgive me?”

CONVERSATION STARTER

What is one thing about your life today that would impress your 10-year-old self?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [Why Is Asking for Forgiveness So Hard to Do?](#) (10 min. read)

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

How can you say to your brother, “Let me take the speck out of your eye,” when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye. Matthew 7:4-5 NIV

Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: “God, I thank you that I am not like other people – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.” But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, “God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Luke 18:10-14 NIV

“Asking for forgiveness is not a complex thing to understand. It’s having the courage to do it. If there is tension in any relationship, assume there is something about the situation for which you will need to apologize. That is how we battle back against our sinful nature that gives us a bloated sense of self.” – Dave VanDonge

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Is it more difficult for you to be asked to forgive or to ask for forgiveness? Why do you think so? In the story about Frankenstein, “the pain inflicted on his family was because he didn’t want to deal with what he had created. In his negligence, more damage was done.” Discuss this reality in relational destruction. Whenever any relationship has tension, this is the clearest sign that someone needs to ask for forgiveness. We see and feel the sign – but what makes it difficult to take the step? Why is asking for God’s forgiveness not enough? If your list for needing to extend forgiveness is longer than your list for needing to ask forgiveness, you’re probably suffering from plank-eye. 😊 Why is this so hard to admit? If you have a hard time apologizing, it’s either because you have not genuinely experienced God’s forgiveness, or you have forgotten how much He has forgiven you. Discuss. What was helpful to you about Dr. Cloud’s directives on how to apologize?

ACTION STEP

I will make the lists where I need to extend forgiveness and ask forgiveness. Then I will reach out to those on my list by _____