



Forgive Luke 17 Living IN Equity

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- PRAYER BOARD
- ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forgiveness: 2/3rd, 2/10th, 2/17th (Gone), 2/24th, 3/3rd, 3/10th, 3/17th, 3/24th, 3/31st

1. Forgiveness as Worship: The Six Challenges of Forgiveness in Luke 17 (add Communion notes to this: Communion = celebration of forgiveness, Communion is worship.)

Forgiveness is not 'a choice' for Christians:

- #1.) LIVE a lifestyle that does *not* cause others to stumble (Matthew 18:6; Mark 9:42)
- #2.) GUARD your heart.
- #3.) GUARD your heart so you can rebuke while taking no offense
- #4.) Living as a forgiven person comes with responsibilities.
- #5.) ASK for supernatural help
- #6.) **Forgiveness is an act of duty....forgiveness is an act of Worship**

2. What Forgiveness Is/What Forgiveness is Not
3. The Role of Anger in Forgiveness: Is it legitimate?
4. Forgiving Oneself (Understanding Your Salvation) – Begins with understanding GRACE
 - I. **The Tension of Self Esteem**
(Pride V.S. Self Love? Acceptance? Embrace? Respect.)
 - II. **What Give Us Value?**
 - III. **Resiliency**

Understanding you are on purpose Psalm 139:13-16

¹³ For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. **I.Am.On Purpose.**

5. **Living IN Equity**
6. Making Judgements / The Role Grief Plays
7. Boundaries in Forgiveness
8. Necessary Endings: The Wise, The Foolish, The Evil
9. Addressing Conflict: Peace Maker v.s. Peace Lover
10. The Art of Relinquishing Control

*Communion slaps us with forgiveness each time we enter into this ordinance



**FORGIVE
LUKE 17**

Colossians 1:13-14 (ESV)

*¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the **forgiveness** of sins*

Our relationship with Jesus must be our most satisfying, sustaining relationship in our earthly life. Why? No, I am not thinking of the Eternal sequence here. I am talking about the absolute need of us being intertwined with Jesus as an essential for health in all of our earthly relationship.

When we pretend that need does not exist or depend on others to meet those areas designed for Jesus and the resulting spiritual maturity to fill, that dependency sloughed off onto other people creates an imbalance of need thereby altering the equality of the relationship.

Need them too much:

Let people get away with unhealthy interactions as we are afraid of losing them.

We enable unhealthy when we excuse their 'lack of' away.

We reinforce bad treatment towards us by our lack of self identity.

We cling too tightly and squeeze healthy right out of them.

We make people our need-meeter (a.k.a. savior).

- How much does GUILT motivate me?
- How much does DUTY motivate me?
- How big of an urge is it to have to EXPLAIN YOURSELF THOROUGHLY to others?
- How often do you feel the need to JUSTIFY YOUR DECISIONS to others?
- You APOLOGIZE for things that do not require one. (Sorry is a by word for you)
- You find others REDO YOUR DECISION for you.
- You just want EVERYONE TO BE HAPPY.

Need them too little:

We live with no fresh input.

Our valuation of others diminishes.

We lack and never notice.

We lose the ability to value input.

We lose the ability to adjust to demands.

We petrify.

We isolate.

Hate grows.

- You have been called STUBBORN regularly (you are actually proud of it).
- You can OUT ARGUE most people.
- You find SILENCE and WITHDRAWAL a social tool you use frequently.
- You have been told you KEEP GRUDGES.
- OVERACHIEVING is a control tactic for you.
- It is hard to LISTEN TO OTHERS INPUT.
- You form your REBUTTAL to others input while they are still speaking to you.

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- You always have a reason for WHY YOU DID THINGS THE RIGHT WAY for every time you are corrected.

Jesus meets our inner vacuum of needs that are shaped like Him, thereby allowing us to meet one another's needs on the ground of Equity.

Living IN Equity: Egalitarianism

1.) Recognizes our complex need of a Savior

John 17:22-23

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

NLT "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

Living IN Equity:

2.) Understands the equalization power of the Cross

Romans 3:22-23

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Galatians 3:28 (Colossians 3:11)

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

The Cross Being The Great Equalizer

Living IN Equity:

3.) Embraces being "in Christ"

Ephesians 1:3-23 ESV

Paul's important phrase "in Christ" (or its equivalent) appears about thirty-five times, more than in any other New Testament book. Furthermore, the salvation of the believer is ensured by the work of all three Persons of the Trinity—the loving choice of the Father (Election 1:3–6), the redeeming work of the Son (Redemption 1:7–12), and the sealing of the Holy Spirit (Protection 1:13, 14).

Vs 3. Blessed

Vs. 4 Chosen

Vs. 5 Predestined, Adopted

Vs. 6 Accepted

Vs. 7 Redeemed, Forgiven

Vs. 8&9 Enlightened

Vs. 11 Given and Inheritance

Vs. 13 Sealed

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Vs. 14 Assured ¹

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as He chose us **in Him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ **to the praise of his glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved.** ⁷ **In Him** we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things **in Him**, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ **In Him** we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ **In Him** you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed **in Him**, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² **And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.**

NLT Spiritual Blessings

³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son (TO US IN THE BELOVED).^[a] ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

⁹ God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. ¹⁰ And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. ¹¹ Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God,^[b] for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.

¹ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). [Nelson's complete book of Bible maps & charts: Old and New Testaments](#) (Rev. and updated ed.). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

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¹² God's purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God. ¹³ And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own^[c] by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. ¹⁴ The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

Paul's Prayer for Spiritual Wisdom

¹⁵ Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere,^[d] ¹⁶ I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, ¹⁷ asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom^[e] and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. ¹⁸ I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.^[f]

¹⁹ I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power²⁰ that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. ²¹ Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. ²² God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. ²³ And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

Living IN Equity:

4.) Moves forward in God's plan for our life

Philippians 3:13-14

¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Living IN Equity:

5.) Has a realistic view of our fine self

Romans 12:3

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

Living IN Equity:

6.) Avoids comparisons to others (used last week too)

2 Corinthians 10:12

¹² Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.

Living IN Equity:

7.) Owns the US in being God 's Temple

1 Corinthians 3:16

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God's temple and that the God's Spirit dwells in you? (in the Greek, you in 16&17 are plural) ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Living IN Equity:

8.) Submits to the equation of being created to serve God

Ephesians 2:10

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¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Living IN Equity:

9.) Appreciates the differences of others

1 Peter 4:7-11 End-Time Ethics

⁷ Now the end of all things is near; therefore, be serious and disciplined for prayer. ⁸ Above all, maintain an intense love for each other, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Based on the gift each one has received, use it to serve others, as good managers of the varied grace of God. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, it should be as one who speaks God's words; if anyone serves, it should be from the strength God provides, so that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ in everything. To Him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

Living IN Equity:

10.) Forges good relationships with others

Ruth 1:16-17

¹⁶ But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you."

Living IN Equity:

11.) Is willing to take risks, to step out in Faith

Esther 4:13-16

¹³ Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think to yourself that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴ For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" ¹⁵ Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, ¹⁶ "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish."

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NotES:

Accept being “in the beloved” (Eph. 1:3-23; Rom. 8:1). (See*Predestined at end of notes)

Gal 4:5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons²

Predestined: Previously ordained or appointed to some position.

God’s election of Christian (v.4) entails His predestining them to something – in this case, to adoption as sons (vs11; Rom 8:29-30) Hence, election and predestination in this context refer to God’s decision to save someone . all Christians, male and female, are “sons” in the sense of being heirs who will inherit blessings from their Father in Heaven. Paul qualifies and stresses God’s plan and initiation of redemption with the phrase according to the purpose of His will here and elsewhere in the passage (Eph 1:9, 11). God cannot be constrained by any outside force, and His inexorable (unalterable) will for believers is to pour out His grace and goodness on them in Christ Jesus. ESV Study Bible

1:3 Spiritual blessing refers to divine privileges and resources available now, that is, chosen, adopted, forgiven. 1 Cor. 12:1 uses the same Greek word for “spiritual” in referring to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, evidencing that they are among the “blessings” included.

1:5 Predestined does not suggest a fatalism that excludes some while including others, but assures an appointed plan and guaranteed destiny for all the redeemed.

1:6 Accepted is literally “graced with grace.” “In Christ” is a recurring term designating the sphere in which all salvation is realized and the realm in which God’s kingdom purposes are fulfilled—in the circle of the King’s (Christ’s) reign.

1:7 This letter repeatedly insists that the ground of all grace is the reconciling death of Jesus Christ on the Cross (2:16), at the expense of **His** redeeming **blood** (2:13). Through this alone God offers forgiveness (4:32). Forgiveness is possible because Christ loved the church and gave Himself to provide it (5:25-27).

1:9 Mystery was formerly a divine secret, but in the NT is now a fully disclosed truth for understanding and application.

1:10 Dispensation is not a restricted period of time. The Greek word refers to the administration or management of a household. Paul is speaking of God’s arrangement or “dispensing” of the affairs of history.

1:11 Counsel of His will signifies God’s eternal and unchangeable plan. Repeated reference to God’s will (vv. 1, 5, 9, 11) establishes the confidence of strong purpose and solid ground for living.

² Thomas Nelson Publishers. (2000). Find it Fast in the Bible (8). Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers.

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1:13 You were sealed is seen by some as referring to justification, but that term is not used here and the emphasis is different. Justification brings acceptance; sealing brings authority (John 3:33, 34). This verse, therefore, may refer to Acts 19:1-6, where the Ephesians, who had already believed, received the fullness of the Holy Spirit after Paul taught and ministered to them.

1:14 Guarantee literally means “deposit,” “down payment,” or “first installment.” The Holy Spirit invested in us is God’s title to possessing us entirely and forever.³

Acts 20:21

²¹ testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.⁴

Predestination—God’s eternal plan

Described as:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| “Purpose” | Rom. 8:28 |
| “Prepared beforehand” | Rom. 9:23 |
| “Foreknowledge” | Acts 2:23 |
| “Foreknew” | Rom. 8:29 |
| “Ordained” | Acts 13:48 |
| “Appointed” | Acts 22:10 |
| “Determined” | Luke 22:22 |
| “Foreseeing” | Gal. 3:8 |
| “Before time began” | 2 Tim. 1:9 |
| Determined by God’s: | |
| Counsel | Acts 2:23 |
| Foreknowledge | Acts 2:23 |
| Good pleasure | Luke 12:32; 1 Cor. 1:21 |
| Will | Eph. 1:5, 9, 11 |
| Purpose | Eph. 3:11 |
| Power | Is. 40:10–17; Rom. 9:15–24 |
| Expressed toward the believer in: | |
| Election | Eph. 1:4 |

³ Spirit filled life study Bible. 1997 (J. W. Hayford, Ed.) (electronic ed.) (Eph 1:3–9). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

⁴ New Spirit-Filled Life Bible for Women: Promise and Purpose from God’s Word. 2007 (J. W. Hayford, Ed.) (1351). Nashville, TN; Dallas; Mexico City; Rio de Janeiro; Beijing: Thomas Nelson.

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|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Salvation | 2 Thess. 2:13, 14 |
| Justification | Rom. 8:30 |
| Sanctification | 2 Thess. 2:12, 13 |
| Glorification | Rom. 8:30 |
| Eternal destiny | Matt. 25:34 |
| See Foreknowledge of God; Elect ⁵ | |

PREDESTINATION—the biblical teaching that declares the sovereignty of God over all things in such a way that the freedom of the human will is also preserved.

Two views of predestination are prominent among church groups today. One view, known as Calvinism, holds that God offers irresistible grace to those whom he elects to save. The other view, known as Arminianism, insists that God’s grace is the source of redemption but that it can be resisted by man through his free choice. In Calvinism, God chooses the believer; in Arminianism, the believer chooses God.

Although the term predestination is not used in the Bible, the apostle Paul alludes to it in Ephesians 1:11: “We have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.”

All Christians agree that creation is moving within the purpose of God. This purpose is to bring the world into complete conformity to His will (Rom. 8:28). From the very beginning of time, God predestined to save humankind by sending His Son to accomplish salvation. Thus, God “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4).

The doctrine of predestination does not mean that God is unjust, deciding that some people will be saved and that others will be lost. Mankind, because of Adam’s *Fall in the Garden of Eden, sinned by free choice. Thus, no person deserves salvation. But God’s grace is universal. His salvation is for “everyone who believes” (Rom. 1:16).

Paul also declared that he was a debtor under obligation to take the message of the gospel to other people (Rom. 1:14) so they might hear and obey.

Predestination is a profound and mysterious biblical teaching. It focuses our thinking on man’s freedom and responsibility as well as God’s sovereignty.⁶

**Accurate Self Examination:
The tasting of God’s Grace leads us to examine
who I am without Christ → Salvation
Now, who am I in Christ?**

⁵ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson’s quick reference topical Bible index. Nelson’s Quick reference (501–502). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

⁶ Hayford, J. W., & Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1995). Hayford’s Bible handbook. Nashville, TN; Atlanta, GA; London; Vancouver: Thomas Nelson Publishers.