

A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ

September 20, 2020

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is different from condoning, excusing, forgetting, pardoning, and reconciliation. Forgiveness is yours to give. You can choose to keep it or not. You may feel that the offense was too great, that they must pay for what they did.

How many times have we been a witness to or the subject of the need of forgiveness? The church is one place where we are not to withhold forgiveness. We have many warnings about the danger of not forgiving. When we withhold forgiveness from a brother or sister, we risk losing our forgiveness from God

Matt 6:14-15 reads, "If you forgive others the wrongs they have done to you, your Father in heaven will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive the wrongs you have done."

In Matt, 18 Peter asked Jesus how many times should I forgive, seven times? Jesus replied seventy times seven. Jesus teaches us to follow Him. We are to love others as He has loved us. Jesus has the authority to forgive, it is His to give, and He gives forgiveness freely.

He, knowing what would happen, went to the cross for us, in order that we should be forgiven. It is an act that releases the guilty party from the transgression. In the cross, we are freed from our sin and given new life. We are pardoned. It is as if we never sinned. This forgiveness allows us access to God through prayer. We can enter the throne room of God and lay our hearts at His feet.

If Jesus can forgive us for a lifetime of sin, why do we struggle to forgive an insult? I know there are things that happen in this world that are unimaginable, and we think, there is no way that I can forgive yet, that is what we are called to do. Just as God desires to restore a broken relationship with man, we are to restore our relationships with each other. How can we hold a grudge against a brother or sister and still offer our worship to God?

Remember, forgiveness is ours to give. Even if the offender does not ask to be forgiven, we can forgive. If we have been holding onto a grudge. We may need to be the one to ask for forgiveness. Often, the offense we hold onto was not intentional, but we do not take the time or ask the questions needed. Rather, we allow sin to take root in us and more often than not, spread to others.

Forgiveness is such a large topic in the bible because it is an important aspect to our lives. We are called to unity; we are called to relationship with one another. Something miraculous happens when we forgive and are forgiven. Remember, forgiveness is an action. It is releasing the offender, letting go of the hurt and looking at them as if the offense never happened.

That is how God looks at us. If we walk in the light as He is in the light. It is as if we never sinned. Jesus paid the price to forgive us. He declared us innocent of guilt. We must also forgive ourselves and not allow guilt to take root in us. Forgiveness is ours to give even to ourselves.

I am reminded of many narratives from scripture where forgiveness was given.

- Think about Joseph and his brothers. They sold him into slavery, and he was imprisoned but when his brothers came for help in the famine. Joseph forgave them saying, "what you meant for evil God used for good." Could you forgive your brothers if they sold you?
- Esau forgave Jacob for stealing the birthright and blessing, then welcomed him and his family back. Could you forgive your brother for stealing from you?
- Jesus forgave the angry mob for placing Him on the cross. Can you forgive your brother or sister?

Do not let another day go by withholding forgiveness from another or yourself. Allow the blessing of forgiveness to restore relationships and to bring honor to God.

- Trent Herbert

Our Prayer List

- Davi Armenta (Herbert's niece) recovering from a gunshot wound at Harborview. Pray for her comfort and for her family.
- Roger and Linda Fry's grandson, Michael. He has a cyst on the brain and other symptoms. His wife is seeking a second opinion regarding treatment of the other symptoms. They will be going ahead with surgery for the cyst.
- Daniel and Lisa as Daniel prepares to go home to be with our precious Father. For the Fry family as they minister to Daniel and Lisa. Grant them peace and comfort on this leg of Daniel's journey.
- Karen Taylor will be going to Oak Harbor on the 25th to be with her daughter, Donyel Hussey who will be having a hysterectomy on the 28th. Pray for Donyel and her healing and for the skill of the medical team.
- Praise for Deloris Lawler's son –in-law Bob Groves whose heart is ok and didn't have to have an invasive procedure done.
- Tammy White's cousin Susan Willis was informed that her uterine cancer has now spread through her blood stream, lungs and liver. They are awaiting a 2nd opinion before doing any surgery.
- Carol Smith's son Steve is currently stabilizing and had a CT on Friday will have an MRI on Monday. Wednesday they have an appointment with Dr Daniel at which time they hope to get information on how the treatment is progressing. His surgery is scheduled right now for the middle of October.
- Pray for our school children, teachers and those having to be home schooling their children due to COVID 19.
- Pray for our elderly seniors, our church family, our Deacons, Spiritual Leadership Team, missions. Pray for healing for our Nation and defeating Satan.
- Pray for all those who are fighting the fires, working in the medical field, our military, our nation and its leaders. For those who have lost so much during Covid19 and the Wildfires.

Note: If you have a prayer request or an update, please contact Bonnie Mitchell at mitbem0519@gmail.com

The Ladies Prayer Group meets online using the Zoom app.
The meeting starts at 10:00am on Tuesdays.
If you would like to participate,
contact Laura Fry for login information.

POCOC Web Site

Note: Some additional files are on the church web site, along with the weekly bulletin.

<http://pococ.weebly.com/weekly-church-bulletins.html>

- The worship song sheets for our Sunday worship service (uploaded on Fridays)
- Current newsletters from Roy Merritt, Trent Herbert, and Tristan Herbert
- Recently Recorded Sermons
- Current Event Calendar

<p>Sunday Worship in the Parking Lot September 20, 2020 – 10:30am Speaker – Trent Herbert Tune your radio to 93.1 FM You must be in the parking lot to tune in.</p>	<p>If you need communion supplies, please call the church or any of the SLT and we will get those items delivered to your door before Sunday. We have to do it this way as we are not allowed to pass it out at the service. So please call; we will get whatever you need delivered to your door.</p>
---	--



Empowering Faith Women Hope Love

Speaker
CYNTHIA EVANS
Cynthia is a christian author, national and international speaker. President of the Titus 2 Project.
A virtual ladies hosted by Northwest Mission
RSVP: Text Michelle Herbert 253-509-8769 for your zoom link

October 3,
2020
9:15 am
-1:00 pm

Happy Birthday!

September: Kayli Benjamin – 17, Eloise Gerard – 17, Charlie Fender – 21, Pam Woodrow – 25, Eunice Orser – 29.

October: Tim Duffy – 4, Kristi Hall – 4, Bob McDaniel – 8, Lisa Bratcher – 13, Cindy Snead – 17, Brittany Pringle – 19, Paula Hill – 20, Jules Hooper – 22, Laura Fry – 24, Sandi Warner – 25, Jodi Hooper – 28.

Tithes and Offerings

Several members have asked how to give their tithe to the Lord during this time. There are three options that allow me to enter your information in for tax purposes.

- 1) If you use on-line bill pay with your bank or credit union, set up a payee for Port Orchard Church of Christ. Your bank will mail your check for you. Other members have been doing this and it works well.
- 2) Mail tithe check to the Church. We have a lock mailbox.
- 3) Or drop the check in an envelope into our mailbox out front of the building.

Church Address:

Port Orchard Church of Christ
4135 Carr Lane SE
Port Orchard, WA 98366

September 13, 2020 – Tithes & Offerings - \$ 1,240.00

If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you. Gary Chasteen (cell) 360-731-4104