# GONE!

My Sin•My Sorrow•My Shame



## Total Forgiveness (pt 1)

Gone - Episode Three "Total Forgiveness" (Part 1) Rev. Richard C. Whitcomb rev.whitcomb@revrcw.com

Matthew 6:14-15 "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Matthew 18:7 "Offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!"

What Forgiveness is NOT:
1. Forgiveness is not the offender.
2. Forgiveness is not you are not hurt.
3. Forgiveness is not an
Matthew 18:21-35 "Peter came to Him and said, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I for give him? Up to seven times?'
Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven."
"Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt." "You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' Then the angry king sent the man to prison unti he had paid every penny."
"That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters in your heart."
How Can I Forgive Others?
1. Remember how much God has me.
Titus 3:4-7 "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us…"

Isaiah 1:18 "Come, let's talk this over!' says the Lord; 'no matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can take it out and make you as clean as freshly fallen snow. Even if you are stained as red as crimson, I can make you white as wool!"

#### Memory Verse for this week:

"Be kind and loving to each other, and forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ."

Ephesians 4:32

### **Study Questions:**

- 1. What has been the greatest difficulty for you in forgiving others?
- 2. In Matthew 6:15, Jesus said, "But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins." What are the consequences we will face if we don't forgive other people? What did Jesus mean when he used the words "refuse to forgive"? What does this tell us about the choices we can make regarding forgiving others?
- 3. Pastor Whitcomb taught that forgiveness is not an emotion. This means we may forgive someone and yet still not feel happy with them. How does knowing this truth help you?
- 4. Our memory verse for this week is Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and loving to each other, and forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ." How has God forgiven you? How can you also forgive others in this same way?
- 5. Make a list of people who have hurt you or offended you. Pray over this list and ask God to give you the grace to love and forgive each one of these people.

#### Pray this prayer today:

Dear Lord,

I thank you for forgiving me of my sins. I know I have done many wrong things in my life. I confess them to you and ask for your forgiveness. I also know that you have forgiven me. Help me to forgive others who have offended me and sinned against me. I have been hurt deeply by other people, and I feel very badly about what others have done to me. But today I choose to forgive anyone who has hurt me or sinned against me. Please fill my heart with your love, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

