

TOUCHING THE INVISIBLE

Part 5 – Receiving God’s Forgiveness Matthew 6:12

Pastor Mark Hartman
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1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. COME TO GENUINE **REPENTANCE**.

A. Step 1 – Come To **Despise** That Sin.

1. How can we change how we view a particular sin?

- a. Take a good long rational look at that sin without its glitter and see that its pleasure is **short-lived**.

*Hebrews 11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a **season**.*

- b. Maximize the emphasis on the **consequences** of the sin.

- 1. *Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.*
- 2. *Numbers 32:23 ...Be sure to know that your sin will find you out.*
- 3. *Ephesians 5:15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as **fools**, but as wise...*

B. Step 2 – Commit to the decision to **turn around** and go the other direction.

1. Repentance means to have a change of attitude. It isn't just sorrow about being caught, but it is a genuine **brokenness**.

a. **Agree** with what God says about that sin.

b. Recognize what Christ **suffered** because of that sin.

Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed.

2. **RECEIVE** GOD'S FORGIVENESS.

A. How Does God Forgive?

1. God forgives **instantly**.

2. God forgives **completely**.

a. *Colossians 2:13-14 He has forgiven all your sins; He has utterly wiped out the evidence of broken commandments which always hung over our heads, and has **completely annulled** it by nailing it to the cross.*

b. *1 Corinthians 13:5 Love keeps no records of wrong.*

B. How are we to respond? With humility and gratitude, we are to **receive** His forgiveness after we have repented and asked His forgiveness.

C. *1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to **forgive** us our sins, and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.*

3. Take back **control** of your future.

A. Refuse to "make **provision** for the flesh."

Romans 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

B. Set up **disciplines** in your thought life.

1. *2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into **captivity** to the obedience of Christ,*

2. *Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*

C. Give **control** of your life to God's Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, in which is excess, but be filled with the Spirit.

D. Expect to be **tested**.

*I Corinthians 10:13 There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not permit you to be tempted above that which you are able, but will, with the temptation, also make the **way to escape**, that you may be able to bear it.*

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Notes:

Lined area for text or notes.