



## river west church

Forgive Us Our Debts

Matthew 6:12

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Forgiveness: Key word at the center of the Gospel

The Lord's Prayer is an outline that puts the full scope of the Gospel on display. Each part of the Lord's Prayer is a doorway for us to personally experience the power of the Gospel in our lives. It begins with our relationship with God as Father. We have been adopted into God's family through faith in Christ. In this prayer we celebrate our relationship with God. We worship Him and pray that His glory might be seen in our world. It moves to the prayer for kingdom impact in this broken world. The Gospel is the message that God is at work in our fallen world, invading with His power, love, healing and redemption through Christ. Through prayer we join with God in His kingdom work in our world. Then we move to the prayer of humble dependence and trust in God, "Give us this day our daily bread." The Gospel is not just about Heavenly realities or Christ's kingdom work in our world. It is also about daily trust for all the details of life.

One word always remains at the very center of the Gospel of God's grace: Forgiveness. So it is no surprise that we come to this theme in the Lord's Prayer, "Forgive us our debts as we have forgiven our debtors." In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus has led us to the very center of the Gospel. Let's take some extra time with this prayer for forgiveness to understand its power for our lives. There are three main points we will explore in the message today. Use the space below each point to take notes and make application to your own life.

When you ask to be forgiven, you renew your relationship with God

When you ask to be forgiven, you re-experience the power of the Gospel in your life

When you ask to be forgiven, you become an agent of God's grace to others