

## Why We Need Forgiveness

God's Word is clear. We need Jesus. We all need Jesus. Jesus did not come just to help the really bad people. Perhaps He did, but we are all really bad. Is that a truth we are ready to accept?

Scripture(s): Ephesians 2:1-3

Remember this - God has intervened in our lives through Jesus precisely because we \_\_\_\_\_ need Him to.

I. The first reason we need the forgiveness and restoration of God is our first allegiance is \_\_\_\_\_ to God. The evidence that a person is stuck in the kingdom of Satan is \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 John 3:8-10** 8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. 9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 10 By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.

II. The second reason we need the forgiveness and restoration of God is we live controlled by our \_\_\_\_\_ wants. Lust/passion is to desire something that is inappropriate or to want something \_\_\_\_\_ is appropriate.

**1 John 2:15-16** 15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

III. The third reason we need the forgiveness and restoration of God is we deserve God's everlasting \_\_\_\_\_. God's judgment is what people like us deserve.

**Romans 5:12-15** 12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— 13 for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. 15 But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

Our challenge: We acknowledge and embrace our spiritual weakness to consistently run to \_\_\_\_\_.

Questions to consider with Jesus...

1. Lord, do I acknowledge the pull toward doing things my way or without considering if You have a better way?
2. Do I let my fears, physical needs, or wants direct what I pursue or how I make decisions, Jesus?
3. Do I accept hear your warning to all of humanity as a warning to me or do I see myself as an exception to your warnings?

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\* Pastoral Prayer & Time in the Word \*

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