

FORGIVENESS ? universal, unqualified, or conditional?

Christianity teaches that believers are forgiven of past, present and future sins.

Heb 10:10, 14

Unconditional forgiveness means letting go of resentment and the need for retribution, granting pardon without expecting the offender to change, apologize, or make amends, focusing on the forgiver's inner peace and freedom from past hurt

Jesus taught radical, boundless forgiveness, urging followers to forgive as God forgives—even enemies—but also linked human forgiveness to our own receiving of God's grace, emphasizing repentance as key for reconciliation, making it a complex but central teaching on *unconditional* love and mercy, not necessarily condoning continued harmful behavior without change.

“Universal” forgiveness – everyone gets a free pass and goes to heaven, no matter what.

Calvinists or reformers believe that some are chosen or elect to be forgiven but “repentance” is an action or “work” that only the elect are capable of.

Dennis Prager – who is Jewish says even God does not forgive unless you repent, therefore he believes that we should not forgive others until they repent.

1. Pray that God forgives us as we forgive Matt 6:9 – The Lords prayer
2. God can not forgive if we do not forgive – Matt 6:14,15
3. We must forgive 490 times a day – Matt 18:22
4. Forgiving others is small compared to THE great forgiveness God offers us. Matthew 18:23-35
5. Healthy forgiveness does not include sanctioning bad behavior.
2 Thess 3:14
6. Forgiveness must be a predetermined internal value, not for us to wait until we're offended then see how we feel about it.
Eph 4:32, Col 3:13