

The Forgiveness from God That You Receive Should Produce the Following Blessednesses

Geoffrey R. Kirkland
Christ Fellowship Bible Church

The forgiveness of God reconciles sinners to Himself through the blood of Jesus Christ. As the regenerated saint continues to repent, confess, and cling to the Lord as a way of life, God's forgiveness that He gives and that they receive blesses the souls of His children.

1. Live in Peace.

Because the Judge's punishment has been satisfied, the accusation has been appeased, the wrath has been poured out, and the separation has been bridged, the forgiven sinner can know perfect peace. He can live in peace knowing that God has forgiven His trespasses. The rebel's lawless deeds, his sins, his corruptions and his lusts are all washed away in Christ's blood. The sinner's lack of worshiping God with God-worthy and supremely-exalted thoughts are completely forgiven in Christ. Knowledge of this full forgiveness and complete cleansing produces a peaceful assurance. Indeed, the Christian who receives God's pardon receives peace.

2. Meditate on Grace.

The Christian benefits greatly by meditation. To meditate means musing on something repeatedly. It refers to constantly speaking a truth to oneself throughout the day. It is to mutter to oneself the truth with which he has filled his heart and mind. Thus, to meditate on grace intimates that the penitent sinner constantly marvels at the mercy of the Lord and thinks on the triumphant grace received in Christ. This meditation on grace takes the sinner's heart and mind and puts it on the object that it rightfully should be upon — the grace of God fully and gloriously manifested in the cross of Jesus Christ.

3. Love Jesus More.

To be forgiven spurs greater love. For the Christian to be cleansed by Christ's blood and for the saint to be made white by the crimson tide most assuredly produces a love, an amazement, a joyful passion to know, love, and serve Jesus more. Full forgiveness brings a deeper love for Christ. The sinner who recognizes what he is saved from will love the One who bore the penalty in his stead. In a concluding word, the saved saint who has received forgiveness resolves to increase in his love and affection for Christ and His majesty.

4. Speak of Forgiveness.

One who receives a blessing enjoys sharing that news with others. As humans, enjoyable events are often recounted to friends, family, and acquaintances. So it should be with the most blessed joy in the universe! It follows that when a saint receives the cleansing of Jesus, the Lamb of God, he desires to speak of this forgiveness to others. This includes speaking of the glorious state of forgiveness not only with other believers for their upbuilding and encouragement but also to the lost who have not yet received divine pardon and forgiveness. Speaking of this great forgiveness is a means by which God uses to bring the elect to Himself and thus save the lost!

This outline is adapted and slightly altered from Henry Law.