/Why Don't You Give God Another Chance?\

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Hi there!

My name is Rory Clark and I am the Pastor of Barah Ministries...a worldwide Christian Church based in Mesa, AZ

I have a question for you...

/Why Don't You Give God Another Chance?\

That's the focus of these ten-minute lessons. You can give God another chance.

/TODAY'S LESSON

"Forgiven" Means God Always Gives You Another Chance\

One of the biggest reasons to give God another chance is because God always gives you another chance. You are forgiven.

Until recently...and that means for well over fifty years as a Christian...I used to ask God to forgive me for things. For example, if I was judging someone, I would say, "God forgive me for judging." After all...judging is a sin...and a sin is anything we do that is not part of God's plan for His creatures. Matthew, Chapter 7, Verse 1 says...

/Matthew 7:1

"Do not judge so that you will not be judged."

Sin is actually an archery term...it means "to miss the mark." When we sin, we are missing the mark of God's preference for how we would conduct ourselves as creatures. I'm sure you would agree that we miss the mark a lot of times every day.

So I would ask God to forgive me...and truthfully, I thought that whether He was going to forgive me or not was in doubt. I think you know what I mean...I'd ask, "Forgive me Lord," and then I'd wait to see whether He was going to forgive me or not. At that time, I always thought that when I committed a sin I was disappointing God. What a silly thought! God loves me UNconditionally...He loves me with no conditions... He loves me with no requirements on my part...He loves me without me doing anything to please Him...in fact, God IS UNconditional love in His very Person...First John, Chapter 4, Verse 8 says...

/First John 4:8

The one who does not love UNconditionally does not know God, for God IS UNconditional love.\

...and I was worried about whether God would forgive me. Then I was studying this parable, and it hit me. Luke, Chapter 7, Verses 36 to 50...

/Luke 7:36

Now one of the Pharisees was requesting the Lord Jesus Christ to dine with him, and the Lord entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table.\

/Luke 7:37

And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner (an unbeliever and a prostitute); and when she learned that Jesus was reclining at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume...\

/Luke 7:38

...and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume.\

/Luke 7:39

Now when the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw this, he said to himself (in his thoughts), "If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner (an unbeliever and a prostitute)."\

/Luke 7:40

And Jesus answered him (even though Simon never said his thoughts out loud), "Simon, I have something to say to you." And Simon replied, "Say it, Teacher."

/Luke 7:41

"A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty denarii."

/Luke 7:42

When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?"\

/Luke 7:43

Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged correctly."

/Luke 7:44

Turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet (you have bad manners), but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair."

/Luke 7:45

"You gave Me no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet."

/Luke 7:46

"You did not anoint My head with oil (as is the custom for a host), but she anointed My feet with perfume."\

/Luke 7:47

"For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little."\

In other words, to the self-righteous Pharisee, Jesus was saying, "Since you don't need forgiveness, since you are so wonderful and perfect...you have to be forgiven little...Luke, Chapter 7, Verse 48...

/Luke 7:48

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins have been forgiven."\

/Luke 7:49

Those who were reclining at the table with Jesus began to say to themselves, "Who is this man who even forgives sins?"

/Luke 7:50

And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."\

It was as if someone splashed ice cold water in my face. Luke, Chapter 7, Verse 48...

/Luke 7:48

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins have been forgiven."\

The literal translation of this verse is...your sins have been forgiven in the past, and the result is your sins stand forgiven forever. The same thing that is true for the unbeliever prostitute is true for you and me.

/All of our sins have been forgiven in the past, and the result is they stand forgiven forever. We are FORGIVEN.\

So we never have to ask God to forgive us, because we are forgiven.

What sin have you committed that is so awful that you think God would not forgive you for it? As the Lord Jesus Christ hung from a Cross to pay for the sins of all of His creatures, He made His policy toward the sins of His creatures crystal clear... Luke, Chapter 23, Verse 34...

/Luke 23:34

But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

God is always willing to give you another chance. Don't you think you should do the same with Him? Why don't you give God another chance?

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