

STUMIN

FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



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CANCEL THE DEBT, NOT THE PERSON.

The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

1 Samuel 16:7b NLT

>> APRIL 20

If we're honest, we'd all admit that forgiveness can be hard. It's difficult to move on when someone hurts us. And when we're the ones who do something wrong? Well, forgiving ourselves can be even more difficult! In both cases, it's important to remember that God's way is so much better than our way. Why? Because God knows what we don't know and sees what we can't see. God loves us and sees more than our mistakes. And when we can see others and ourselves the way God sees us all, we'll find forgiveness to be much easier.

Talk with your family this week about how seeing yourself and others the way God sees you can help you forgive.

If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you.

Matthew 6:14 NLT

>> APRIL 21

No matter who you are or what you've done, it's important to remember that we all need forgiveness. We all need to receive it, and we all need to give it. The good news is, because of Jesus, forgiveness is always ours to give and take. Jesus made a way for us to receive the ultimate forgiveness, and because of that, we can extend that same forgiveness to both others and ourselves.

Today, ask yourself if there is someone you need to forgive. Maybe it's someone else, or maybe it's even you. Then, pray that you would be able to give that forgiveness easily.

Though we are overwhelmed by our sins, you forgive them all.

Psalms 65:3 NLT

>> APRIL 22

When we focus on our mistakes, we can become discouraged or even hopeless at times. It can almost seem as if we'll never get it right! Rather than focus on your mistakes or missteps, focus instead on the thing God gives us to make it better: forgiveness. Even though our mistakes might feel overwhelming, God's forgiveness is bigger. When we feel defeated by our mistakes, God's forgiveness is still there to cover all our sins. The next time you're feeling discouraged, remember that God's forgiveness is greater than your mistakes, and there's nothing you can do to separate yourself from God's love.

Take a moment to thank God for the unconditional love you've received!

*Lord, you are so good,
so ready to forgive, so
full of unfailing love
for all who ask for
your help.*

Psalm 86:5 NLT

>> APRIL 23

Did you know that God is eager to forgive you? That simply means that God is excited, thrilled, and happy to forgive you! So much so, that God sent Jesus to make that forgiveness possible for us. We can't earn it. We can't lose it. All we have to do is accept it. We don't have to hold on to the things we've done wrong or the ways we've messed up. After all, God doesn't, so why should we? Instead, we can find freedom and unfailing love when we receive the forgiveness God wants to give us.

Take a moment and say out loud, "I accept your forgiveness, God." Let it be the first step in letting go and moving on from your mistakes.

*He is so rich in
kindness and grace
that he purchased our
freedom with the
blood of his Son and
forgave our sins.*

Ephesians 1:7 NLT

>> APRIL 24

God doesn't hold grudges and won't try to get back at us for something we did. God forgives us because God is so kind and good.

Are you holding onto something that you need to forgive yourself for? Think of what that thing is in your own life right now. Got it?

No matter what it is, remember that you can forgive yourself because God has already forgiven you.

Take a minute and pray, thanking God for forgiving you and asking God to help you forgive yourself, too.

*But God showed his
great love for us by
sending Christ to die
for us while we were
still sinners.*

Romans 5:8 NLT

>> APRIL 25

Have you ever been able to forgive someone before they apologized? That takes a huge amount of strength! And it's exactly what Jesus did for us. Jesus loved us so much that He didn't wait for us to get it right or have it all together. As a matter of fact, Jesus died to forgive us even while we didn't deserve it. Jesus' love made the first move to forgive, and that should inspire us to love and forgive ourselves.

Are you struggling to forgive yourself? What hurts or mistakes or mess ups are you having a hard time moving on from? Pray today that you will experience Jesus' forgiveness in a real way so that you can forgive yourself, too.

*Make allowance for
each other's faults,
and forgive anyone
who offends you.
Remember, the Lord
forgave you, so you
must forgive others.*

Colossians 3:13 NLT

>> APRIL 26

When we're struggling to see ourselves the way God sees us, God's Word can help. Having it in our hearts and minds is a great way to be reminded of the truth we need to hear about who we are and how God feels about us.