

WHY FORGIVENESS IS THE SOLUTION

April 18, 2021 Various Texts by Bob Branch
The Power and Complexity of Forgiveness, pt. 2

BIG QUESTION: Why is forgiveness God's Solution—his bridge back to wholeness?

Sin: to fail, miss the goal, to fall short.

“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

Romans 3:23

Transgress: to *violate the trust of others*; to know a clear boundary and knowingly violate it.

“Where there is no law there is no transgression.”

Romans 4:15

“you were dead in your transgressions and sins”

Ephesians 2:1

Iniquity: internal twistedness. (**Isaiah 59:2**)

1. They break _____.

“Your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you...” **Is. 59:2** (Rom. 8:7)

2. They break families, friends, _____.

“What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?” **Jas. 4:1**

3. They break _____.

“When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long.” **Psalms 32:3 NLT**

4. They break Neighborhoods, Cities, States & _____.

“For Christ himself is our peace. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the

cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.” **Ephesians 2:14**

5. They stain the whole _____ . (**Rom. 8:19-23**)

¹ **Offense/Sin/Iniquity/Breach of Trust** needs removing

² **Record/Tally of Wrongs against us** needs Erasing

³ **Abiding Memory** needs Forgetting

⁴ **Weight/Burden** needs Lifting up/off

⁵ **Alienating Afront** needs Covering

⁶ **Harmed/Injured Us/Other** needs Healing

⁷ **Stained, Tainted** needs Washing away

⁸ **Rightful Consequence** need to be Passed By

⁹ **Needy Condition** needs Mercy/Pity/Compassion

¹⁰ **Sticky/Stuck to Us** needs to be Sent/Taken Away

¹¹ **Debt** needs to be Paid off, and in Full

¹² **Just Charge,** needs Pardoning

¹³ **Prison-Enslaving** needs to be Released

¹⁴ **Alienation** must be bridged.

God's solution: _____.

WHAT'S OUR RESPONSE?

• _____ **instead of moving away.** (James 4:8; Heb. 10:22)

• _____ **with God's Diagnosis: Sin is the root problem. Allow the Spirit to show you how God sees your sin and sees you.** (1 John 1:8-10)

• _____ **your sin, transgressions and iniquities to him.** (1 John 1:9)

• _____ **the sin(s).** (Acts 3:19)

• _____ **His Forgiveness.** (1 Jn 1:9) “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow” **Is. 1:18**

• _____ **—from God & others.** (Jas 5:16; Jn 20:23)