

## SEVEN STEPS TO FORGIVENESS.



- 1) **ENTRUST YOURSELF ONCE MORE TO JESUS CHRIST.** You cannot make up for your sins by trying to be good. Fresh resolves and promises do not atone for sin. Doubling down on your religious duties will not ease the pain of guilt. Only Jesus Christ can bring forgiveness and calm the aching heart. **AND HE IS WILLING TO DO SO.**
- 2) **CONFESS YOUR SIN TO GOD.** If you can also do so with a trusted human being, how wonderful! Admit fully what you have done. Do not blame others or circumstances. Take responsibility for yourself.
- 3) **REPENT OF YOUR SIN.** Do you intend to turn from your sin and follow Christ once more? Do you intend to find ways to gain victory over your sin? Do you sincerely wish you had not sinned? Then you are repentant.
- 4) **RESTORE WHERE APPROPRIATE.** If you have sinned against someone else, and it is appropriate, make restitution. Perhaps you have failed to pay child support. Find ways to begin again. Perhaps you simply owe someone an apology. Then humble yourself and do so.
- 5) **ASK GOD TO FORGIVE YOU.** You do not need to give a lengthy oration. Simply say, "Father, please forgive me for \_\_\_\_\_, cleanse me, and teach me how to do better next time."
- 6) **THANK GOD (out loud) THAT HE DOES FORGIVE YOU!** This is where your faith in Jesus and the Bible comes in to play. The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).
- 7) **PICK UP THE PIECES AND MOVE ON.** You have fallen down. Now get back up. Keep following Jesus. He has forgiven you. It is now "under the blood," the past is gone, and your sin is remembered no more. "For I will forgive their wickedness and remember their sins no more" (Hebrews 8:12).