

Sermon Notes

When We Pray, Pray This Way

#5 – “Whatever Became of Sin?” – Matthew 6:12

I. Introduction

A. Karl Menningers work.

1. Linkage between sin and psychological and physical desire.

B. What became of sin in the Evangelical church?

1. It is bad business in today’s market driven models for church growth.

C. Jesus’ model for prayer provides a regular reminder.

1. Forgive us our debts as we forgive others.

II. Exposition.

A. Matthew 6:12 – Debts or trespasses?

1. Greek terms used for sins.

a. *Harmartia* – most common. To miss the mark.

b. *Paraptoma* – usually translated as trespass. To slip due to carelessness.

c. *Parabasis* – To step over the line.

d. *Anomia* – Lawlessness, flagrant rebellion.

e. *Opheilema* – moral or spiritual debts. God must be paid back. This is Matthew’s term while Luke (11:4) uses *Harmartia* for the same instruction by Jesus.

1. John MacArthur

2. This prayer is for the believer and not the unbeliever.

3. Defining sin.

a. A. W. Pink

b. Romans 1:18

B. Forgiving debts as we forgive others.

1. Is forgiveness a work that merits forgiveness? No.

2. The forgiven have motive to forgive.

a. Dan Doriani

b. John Stott

III. How important is forgiveness?

A. Christians need constant forgiveness.

1. Central to the entire prayer.

a. Mentioned six times in eight verses.

b. I John 1:8-9

B. How forgiveness works in the life of the Christian.

1. John 13:1-10

2. The terms “wash” and “washed” are two different Greek words.

a. Washed – “Louo” means to b_____ ones’ body
c_____

1. J_____

b. Wash – “Nipto” means to wash people’s h_____
and f_____.

1. S_____

3. John MacArthur

4. I John 1:8-9; Hebrews 4:12; I Corinthians 11:31

IV. Points for Reflection

A. Asking for forgiveness implies confession.

B. Do not curse yourself as you pray as in Jesus’ model for prayer.

C. Forgiven sins are forgotten sins.

D. Always check your heart when your body is infirm.

E. The Puritans always say it best.