

Theology Simply Explained — WSC105 “Praying to Be Forgiven Forgivers”

Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 105—especially explaining how grace forgives us, makes us into forgivers, and makes us desire and delight in forgiveness.

Q105. What do we pray for in the fifth petition? ***In the fifth petition, which is, And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, we pray that God, for Christ's sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are rather encouraged to ask, because by His grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.***

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Catechism question this week is What do we pray for in the fifth petition? The answer is that in the fifth position, which is And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. We pray that god for christ's sake. Would freely, pardon all our sins. Which we are rather the encouraged to ask.

Because by his grace, We are unable from the heart. To forgive others.

So when we pray, Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. We are responding to a work of grace. That God has already done. In our hearts.

We do not just

Speak forgiveness as a mere formality. But those whom the lord. Grant to us by his grace to forgive. He teaches us to desire. They're good. He turns us to love. Our enemies. His holy spirit works in us. Part of our sonship towards. So the lord jesus teaches us. But if we love only those who love us, We're not really so different.

Then the nations, meaning the unconverted. On the earth. But if we love our enemies, Then we are children of our heavenly bought. And so there is this forgiving with others. That god works in our hearts. And not only, Does our forgiving of others. Give us a hint. At god's great love to us.

Who while we were his enemies christ died for us. But, It makes us desire all the more that we would be forgiving. Because when we forgive graciously, We realize how much bigger our sin is against god. Than other people's sin is against us. And so there's this marvelous thing.

And god who, And we're no longer his enemies. Now, we are reconciled to him and how much more Readily and freely. He forgives us. And he makes us to see. How great is forgiveness of us? Has been and continues to need to be. So when we and whom he has done, this great work of grace.

Continue to sin against him. We are sinning against great grace. And the heinousness the Culpability of our sin is even bigger. Then. Then when we were enemies. And we are sending against him. And so, all of these things factor in together, To make us. Desire. All the more to lay hold of his forgiveness in the lord jesus.

That we would enjoy a new That we would enjoy freshly. Our reconciliation within. That he would be much glorified. Our continuing to forgive us as he always will. Because we will never run out. Of the atonement of christ and the grace that is in Christ. And so there's this marvelous, Connection.

Then we always. Need to be forgiven. And yet. There's a connection between the work of grace. That god has done in us already. And the desire. That he would be glorified. By continuing to be gracious. To us. And then it is also. Implied, although it's not here. So much in our Catechism answer.

That the more we are forgiven by him. The more forgiving we ought to be of others. Your number jesus told the parable. Of the man who is forgiven. And on imaginable debt. Barbecue. And then he turned around. And someone owed him. About a year's worth of wages. And, When he would not forgive the other man.

Well, we We are trained in the heart by god. To be forgiven of others by seeing How great is forgiveness has been of us. We who have been forgiven yet imaginable debt? What to be freely willing? To forgive others. Even if their debt seems like a lot between two people.

Can have a compare. To what we have been forgiven by God. And so, those two things. And good together. In those two ways. So the question is, what do we pray for in the fifth protection? And the answer is in the fifth partition, which is And forgive us our debts.

As we forgive our debtors. We pray that god for christ's sake. Would freely, pardon all our sins. Which we are the rather encouraged to ask. Because by his grace, We are enabled from the heart. To forgive others.