



**SERIES: APRIL – YES, YOU CAN! OVERCOMING YOUR STRUGGLES**

**SPEAKER: Nick Orduna**

**Thursday, 4/14/22**

**Scripture: Ephesians 4:32**

**Title: How Can I Forgive Others?**

Welcome to Win the Day. I'm Pastor Nick Orduna filling in for Nat Crawford and today we are going to talk about forgiving others and I hope our time together is an encouragement to you today.

As a pastor, I have had the wonderful privilege of being able to walk with couples through their pre-marriage counseling and then officiate their weddings on their special day. One of my favorite things to remind them of is the importance of having a Gospel centered marriage and one of the fundamentals of the Gospel is forgiveness. Forgiving others, much like our talk from yesterday on forgiving yourself, ultimately comes from understanding the Gospel and God's forgiveness. What we need first and foremost is God's forgiveness, which is available to us through the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Because the Gospel is a message about the full and free forgiveness of sin, we are challenged to forgive one another. Forgiveness is much easier for the person who lives consciously of the reality of how much they also need to be forgiven. Nobody gives grace better than someone who's convinced they need it as well. When we're filled with the grief of our own sin and with gratitude for the amazing forgiveness we've been given, then we'll find joy in giving to others what we've received.

Check out our verse for today from the Word of God. Ephesians 4:32 (ESV) says, [“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”](#)

Because of the Gospel, when you do sin, confess your sin to one another quickly, humbly, and sincerely. Be ready to forgive whole-heartedly, freely, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Nothing done against us compares to our sin against God. Therefore, all offenses, hostility, and bitterness between your spouse and others should be squashed, forgiven and removed. People that choose not to forgive don't get the Gospel. People who choose to hold on to bitterness, anger and resentment and an unforgiving spirit usually are or become mean and miserable people. What if God chose to not forgive us for our sin?

Think about this: The more I'm preoccupied with loving and forgiving others as Jesus has loved and forgiven me, the less heart space I have for things like anger, resentment, revenge, bitterness and an unforgiving spirit.

That's how we will display the Gospel in your marriage and relationships with others. When you carry with you a deep appreciation for the grace that you've been given, you'll have a heart that's

ready to forgive. That doesn't mean that the process will be comfortable or easy, but it will mean that you can approach your needy friend or relative remembering that you're just as much in need of what you're about to give to him or her.

Once again, Ephesians 4:32 says, “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” So let's work at forgiving others that way, and it will point others to Christ and the full and free forgiveness He offers us in the Gospel.