

***Forgiveness:
Our Greatest Gift***

Michael Lewis

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I John 1:5-2:2

We live in a world of guilt and shame. Most are reminded every week in a dozen different ways of their inadequacies and failures. The more sensitive one is to right and wrong, the greater the sense of imperfection. That puts a Christian in a difficult spot, for they tend to be the most sensitive to God's high standards of living. Therefore, strangely enough, the people who feel the guiltiest in the world are often Christians. Our Christian training from the earliest age teaches us that we are to do right in all circumstances and our culture teaches us that we can do anything we want to do. It is a recipe for guilt... Unless we learn God's plan to forgive is greater than our capacity to earn it by human effort.

The Untrusting Lifestyle:

- 1. (V.6) If our walk doesn't match our _____.***
- 2. (V.8) If we say we do not currently _____.***
- 3. (V.10) If we say sin has never been a _____.***

The Principle: Every Christian _____ to struggle with sin.

The Trusting Lifestyle:

- 1. Christians who endeavor to please God are _____ c _____.***
- 2. Christians who are honest about the sinfulness are _____.***

The Principle: Every Christian is called to trust in _____ more than _____ or _____ for their forgiveness.

Matthew 18:23-35

The Message:

Forgiveness is a _____. Don't try to _____ it.

Our forgiveness is based upon _____. T _____ Him.

How we forgive other shows what we _____ of Jesus. Show _____ for Him.