

## **How to Seek Forgiveness from Another**

Num 5:5-7 NIV

5 The LORD said to Moses, 6 "Say to the Israelites: 'When a man or woman wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to the LORD, that person is guilty 7 and must confess the sin he has committed. He must make full restitution for his wrong, add one fifth to it and give it all to the person he has wronged.

Matt 5:23-24 NIV

23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

25 "Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. 26 I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

Rom 12:17-18 NIV

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Heb 12:14-15 NIV

14 Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

**Seven A's of confession (Prov. 28:13; Matt. 7:3-5) - modified from The Peacemaker by Ken Sande**

**\*Check for a heart problem – What comes out of me under pressure reveals what is really in me.**

- A. Address everyone involved - begin by seeking God's forgiveness; be wise in the timing and the place of your conversation with the person you have offended**
- B. Avoid *if, but* and *maybe* - don't bring up any offense by the other person at this time**
- C. Admit specifically – describe the nature of the offense and how it must have made them feel**
- D. Apologize – communicate that you are deeply sorry for how you have hurt them**
- E. Accept the consequences – if possible restore the person and “add 20%”**
- F. Alter your behavior – inform the offended party of your willingness to repent**
- G. Ask for forgiveness – Ask “Will you forgive me for . . .?”**

2 Cor 5:17-20 NIV

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

