

BEFORE WE GO

A podcast sharing years of wisdom, insights and humor from the ministry team of David & Karen Mains.

SCRIPTURE & REFLECTION QUESTIONS – WK 3

Read: Luke 22:54–62 and John 21:15–19

1. What recent events in the apostles' lives led to Luke 22:54–62? How was this a confusing time for Peter and the rest of the Twelve?
2. What does verse 62 reveal regarding Peter's feelings about what he did?
3. Recall a time when you really blew it with someone or with God. Looking back, how might you have handled the situation differently?
4. After His resurrection, how did Jesus respond to Peter's denial (John 21:15–19)? Why was this important for Peter? Why do you think this encounter was included in Scripture?
5. Notice that in Acts 2:38–39, Peter preaches the forgiveness of sins to his fellow Jews. What does this reveal about Peter's acceptance of the Lord's forgiveness? How can you better follow his example?

Read: Psalm 51

1. David committed adultery and murder, crimes punishable by death (see 2 Samuel 11:1–12:25). How does knowing this give more meaning to David's words?
2. In King David's time, sacrifices were a part of the divine forgiveness process. What has changed between then and now?
3. If you are troubled by unforgiven sins, what do you believe are God's feelings toward you?
4. Could David's words in verses 1–4 and 8–10 serve as a model for how someone might ask God for forgiveness? Why not make these verses a pattern for a personal written prayer to God?
5. David's prayers were often accompanied by music. What songs remind you of God's forgiveness?

Read Luke 15:11–31

1. Have you ever done something so prodigal that you feel God would be reluctant to extend His forgiveness your way?
2. What feelings about the above situation have made you reluctant to go to your heavenly Father regarding this matter?
3. What needs to be done for you to “come to your senses” (verse 17) regarding the situation?
4. According to this parable, what do you think your heavenly Father’s feelings are regarding what transpired?
5. When might be a good time for you to see if God’s grace is as great as people say?

Read 1st John 1:5–10

1. Reread the passage, replacing the words we, us and our with I, me and my. What difference does this make?
2. Do you believe what John writes about in this passage? What about on an emotional level? Explain.
3. Has there been a time in your past or present when you felt you were not totally forgiven by God? How does this passage speak to that problem?
4. Do you have an issue with God that is still unresolved? What can you do to fully accept the Lord's grace and forgiveness?
5. If you have never experienced God's forgiveness and you don't sense that His Spirit is alive in you, to whom might you talk to learn more about this amazing gift from God?

Read Colossians 3:12–14

1. Of all the qualities Paul lists in these verses, which are the most challenging for you?
2. Has there been a time in your life when you found it especially hard to forgive someone? How did that affect other areas of your life?
3. Is there someone you are presently holding a grievance against? What is that person's name?
4. Is this individual aware that you are nursing a grudge against him or her?
5. Are you willing to forgive him or her in the same way God has willingly forgiven you? Why or why not?