

## Questions for Discussion 19 September 2015



1. What is the difference between true repentance and a mere apology?
2. Are we obliged to forgive if there is reason to believe that the offender's "repentance" is a sham? Are we entitled to rely on our discernment when choosing whether to forgive?
3. What determines whether someone is worthy of forgiveness?
4. Are there times when it is wrong to forgive?
5. Is requiring restitution before extending forgiveness ever appropriate? Is forgiveness subject to pre-conditions real forgiveness?
6. Should we forgive people before they seek forgiveness?
7. Are there limits on how often we should forgive someone for the same offence?
8. Does the availability of forgiveness condone or encourage sin? What is the deterrent for sin?
9. Are forgiveness and justice incompatible concepts?
10. Is it possible to state forgiveness to someone and still have thoughts and emotions that contradict the decision to forgive? If negative feelings continue, does that mean that the forgiveness was insincere or incomplete?
11. The expression "forgive and forget" has attained cliché status. When we grant forgiveness, does that entail a promise to forget the offense completely? Does God forget our sins when He forgives?
12. Is it enough to seek forgiveness only from God or does it need to be sought from others also?
13. Is God willing and/or able to forgive our sins if we withhold forgiveness from others?