

Mere Christianity
Book 3, Chapter 7
Forgiveness

Questions:

1. In two or three sentences: What is the message of this chapter?

2. According to Jesus, what is the relationship between God's forgiveness of us and our forgiveness of others (Matt. 18:21-35; Mk. 11:25)?

3. How does "loving your neighbor as your self" (Matt. 22:39) come into play here?

4. What does loving your neighbor as yourself not mean?

5. Are we to forgive unilaterally, or should repentance on the part of the "offender" be a factor in our forgiveness? Isn't that a prerequisite to God's salvation of us?

6. For the Christian, does loving one's enemy prohibit self-defense, serving in the military, and working in law enforcement?

7. How is Christian morality different from “ordinary morality”?

8. A woman once told me: “I know it’s wrong for me to leave my husband, but God (and others) will forgive me later.” How should our practice (and doctrine) of forgiveness relate to that? How is a Christian to respond? By the way, this woman later married a man who had left his wife and children!