

I FORGIVE YOU, PLEASE FORGIVE ME

“Heavenly Father, help me to forgive”.

One of the challenges we face as disciple of Christ is to take the responsibility to forgive. The ramification of the original sin had been passed on for generations. The cascading consequences of negative relationship have piled up to the point that most of us experience emptiness and feeling of abandonment or perhaps just plain insensitive.

There are many factors that stifle our action to take accountability of the mistakes made. We often fear that act of forgiveness may not be received positively by the other person involved. When we embrace resentments it becomes a stronghold to forgiveness. It fuels negative emotions and the longer we take the step to forgive and ask for forgiveness, the more it will arise to a more irrational anger and hatred.

Are you disappointed? Are you angry? I am sure you are. Emotions such as these are good as long as we use it for God’s purpose. It helps us recognize the problem and gauge the necessary action to take. We need to infuse the power of the Holy Spirit to work in us in order for us to go through the process of forgiveness. Moreso, when we struggle from within, feeling empty and dry.

God uses his Word, people and circumstances to mold us in the likeness of Christ. He gives us the Word to know the truth, people to gain support and circumstances to live an environment that would give the opportunity to put our total reliance on the Triune God. It is a time to supernaturally let go of our limited capacity and letting God do the rest. However we have to put our heart and mind in the right disposition, that is, “sincere repentance”.

As Mother Teresa said, “it is in my dryness that it heightened my appreciation for my heroic love for God”. By abiding with his Word, our loving Father will soar and sail our free will to choose on what is right and just, “to forgive and be forgiven” (Lk 17:3-4)

When we look at our negative encounters in the same light as Mother Teresa, it gives us the opportunity to build our character. The human (and divine) dimension of Jesus Christ has given us a perfect model to follow. He endured pain and difficulties through his humility and his constant love for God.

In Proverbs 4:23, it tells us that the heart is the source of life. Therefore let us guard our heart in obedience so it will shape up our life for the Gospel - to love God with all our heart, mind and soul and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

“I love you, I forgive you, please forgive me.”