

**INSURGENCY**

The God Who Bleeds – IV

E. Paul Allen

**Open in Prayer**Review Chapter 5 of the digital book, *Insurgency*, and Read Matthew 6:9-12

Pastor Derwin writes on pages 53-54: *“Their sins would be atoned for (Leviticus 16:15-20). Moses writes, “For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have appointed it to you to make atonement on the altar for your lives, since it is the lifeblood that makes atonement” (Leviticus 17:11). Next, the high priest would “lay both his hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the Israelites’ iniquities and rebellious acts—all their sins. He is to put them on the goat’s head and send it away into the wilderness by the man appointed for the task. The goat will carry all their iniquities into a desolate land, and the man will release it there” (Leviticus 16:20-22). This is the ‘scapegoat.’ People’s sins were not only forgiven, but because of the scapegoat, their sins were forgotten.”*

*“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.”* Dr. Lewis Smedes

**The God Who Bleeds**Read [Ephesians 4:32](#); [Colossians 3:13](#); [Matthew 18:21-22](#)He forgave us so that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can forgive.

- What is forgiveness?
- Why should we forgive?
- What if the sin was really bad? Hurt us deeply?
- What if the person continues in sin?

Read [Romans 5:8-10](#); [Ephesians 1:7](#); [Hebrews 10:17](#); [Isaiah 1:18](#)

- How do these texts empower us to forgive others?
- Who were we before we became followers of Jesus?
- Have you been bullied? Have you ever lost a boyfriend or girlfriend to someone else and you can’t forgive them? Where do you find the power to forgive deep personal hurts?
- Can you think of a time where you forgave someone? If so, what came out of that moment?
- Has someone ever forgiven you when you hurt them or said something wrong? If so, what did this teach you?

**5 Things Forgiveness is not:****1. Forgiveness is not a feeling.**

- If it’s not about a feeling – what is our motive to forgive?

**2. Forgiveness is not pretending you were not hurt.**

- We get hurt and it’s “ok” to show that we hurt. How does forgiveness heal the hurt?
- Are we freed when we acknowledge it?

**3. Forgiveness is not condoning what the person did to you.**

- What is the difference from condoning an action and forgiving it?

**4. Forgiveness is not trusting the offender.**

- Does forgiving someone mean we immediately start to trust them?
- Is trust possible? How?

**5. Forgiveness is not relieving the person of responsibility.**

- How can we be frozen in our ability to forgive if we think the offender has no responsibility?

**6. How Do We Forgive?**

- By remembering the kindness and compassion Jesus gave you.

**Soul Tattoo:**

Forgive who you need to forgive