

## DAY 13 — Thankful for Forgiveness

**Verse:** “As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.” — Psalm 103:12

Forgiveness is one of the most freeing gifts God offers — yet it's also one of the hardest for us to accept.

We're good at remembering our mistakes.

We replay words we wish we hadn't said.

We revisit choices we regret.

We carry shame long after God has already offered grace.

But God doesn't hold grudges.

He doesn't keep score.

He doesn't bring up your past once He's forgiven it.

**When God forgives, He removes — completely.**

Not halfway.

Not temporarily.

Not with conditions attached.

The Bible says He removes our sins as far as the east is from the west — meaning there is no measuring the distance between them. Once forgiven, they are gone.

Forgiveness isn't God pretending sin didn't matter.

It's God loving us enough to take the weight of it off our shoulders.

Because of Jesus:

- shame no longer defines us
- guilt no longer owns us
- mistakes no longer label us

- the past no longer controls our future

Forgiveness gives us freedom to breathe again.

Freedom to walk in grace.

Freedom to start over without carrying the weight of yesterday.

And sometimes the hardest part isn't receiving God's forgiveness — it's forgiving ourselves.

But if God has forgiven you, you are free to forgive yourself too.

You are not your worst moment.

You are not your biggest mistake.

You are not disqualified because of your past.

You are forgiven.

You are redeemed.

You are loved.

Be thankful today for the grace that covers you and the mercy that meets you every morning.

Lord, today we thank You for the incredible gift of forgiveness.

Thank You for loving us enough to forgive our sins, remove our guilt, and give us a fresh start through Jesus.

For anyone listening who is weighed down by shame, regret, or past mistakes, remind them today that Your grace is greater.

Help them release what You have already forgiven and walk in the freedom You offer.

Teach us to extend forgiveness to others as You have extended it to us.

And help us live each day grateful for the mercy that meets us anew every morning. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.