FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES:

LESSON FIVE:

THE INTERNAL STRUGGLE OF UNFORGIVENESS

Seek

March Sermon Series

“I can seek God and find Him. God is knowable, touchable, hearable, seeable, with the mind, the hands, the ears and the eyes of the inner man.”

Look to the LORD and His strength;
seek His face always.
I Chronicles 16:11

Hindrances from SEEKING God:

1. PRIDE
2. SELF-SUFFICIENCY
3. FEAR

Lesson Five:
The Internal Struggle of UNFORGIVENESS

And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

Mark 11:25

If I’m not right with you, then I’m not right with Him.

“I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.”

Matthew 18:21-22

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors”
Matthew 6:12

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you”
Ephesians 4:32

“For You, O Lord, are good, and ready to forgive [our sins, sending them away, completely letting them go forever and ever]; And abundant in lovingkindness and overflowing in mercy to all those who call upon You.

Psalm 86:5

Scripture Lesson:
Acts 7:54-60

Acts 7:54-60, When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, “Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!”

Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying,

“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.”

“Now Saul was consenting to his death.”
Acts 8:1

Five Lessons about Forgiveness:

1. Forgiveness Flows from Surrender.

2. Forgiveness is Offered before Apology.

3. Forgiveness Coexists with Suffering.

4. Forgiveness is Verbal.

5. Forgiveness Mirrors Christ.

The posture you take toward others becomes the posture God reflects back to you.

Unforgiveness acts like a dimmer switch. It
doesn’t change God’s light—
it just makes it harder for you to see it.

When mercy and grace flow through us like a river, they wash offense, confusion, bitterness, hurt, and anger out of us too!

The problem with offense is that the longer we hold it, the more internally attached it becomes!

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 51:10