



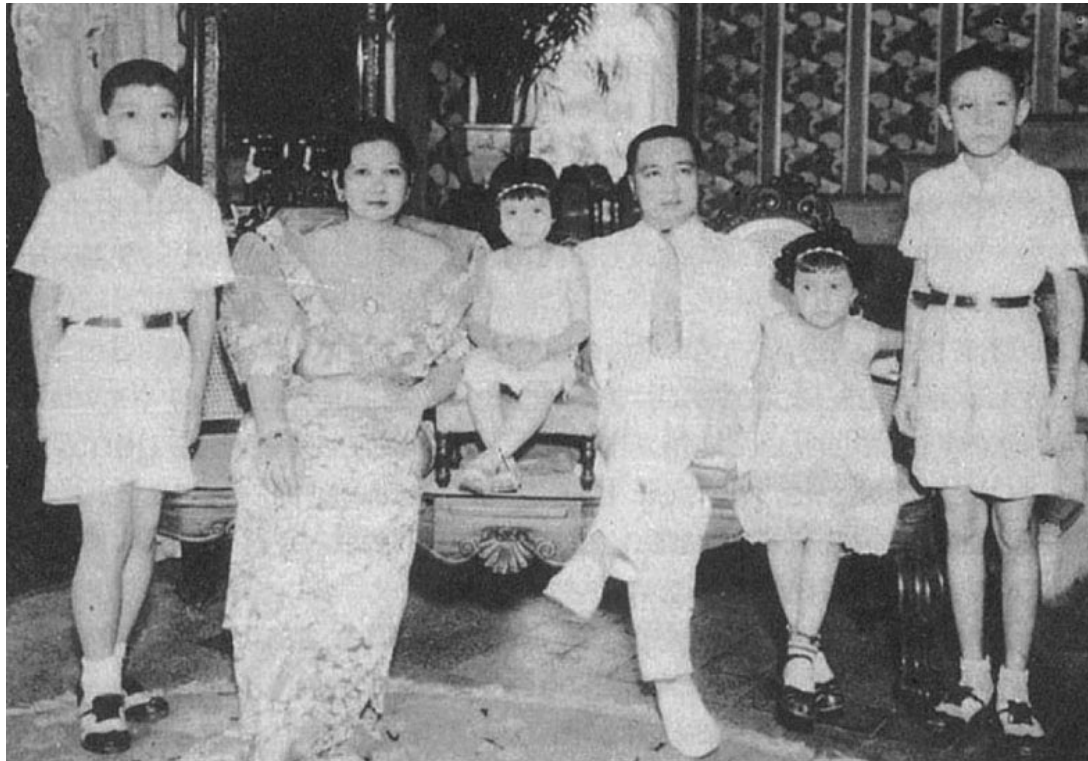
The Sweet, Sweet Taste of Forgiveness

Psalm 32
Harvest Day

**Forgive me my nonsense,
as I also forgive the
nonsense of those that
think they talk sense.**

Robert Frost

President Elpidio Quirino's wife and three of his children were murdered by Japanese soldiers in WWII. Quirino shocked and changed the world when he forgave and released Japanese war criminals in 1953.



Psalm 32 is known for its beauty. It touches our hearts because it is about the power of forgiveness and confession. The ancient song reminds us that God longs to embrace us in His grace and mercy, but He also demands that we humble ourselves and acknowledge our sin. Every great spiritual movement begins with a season of confession from God's people... what if we began that movement today?

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

² Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³ For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*

1. Forgiveness is possible, powerful and deeply personal... we must learn to receive it... to offer it and to seek it! (1-6)

**When you've really
experienced true
forgiveness, it changes
you deep within!**

**1) A new state of being: Blessed-
soul happy**

2) Freedom!

2 Cor. 3:17 -Where the Spirit of the Lord is
there is freedom

Galatians 5:1 -For freedom Christ set us
free

Galatians 5:13 -You were called to
freedom

1 Peter 2:16 -Live as people who are free,
not using your freedom as a cover up for evil.

Random Thoughts on Forgiveness: ***When we refuse to give or receive forgiveness we voluntarily lock ourselves in a prison of resentment***



Forgiveness is the key
that unlocks the door of
resentment and the
handcuffs of hatred.

- Corrie ten Boom

Random Thoughts on Forgiveness: ***Refusing to Forgive is a primary cause of God shutting down His plans to bless you***

I firmly believe a great many prayers are not
answered because we are not willing to
forgive someone. ~ D.L. Moody

Random Thoughts on Forgiveness:
***Forgiving even when it is not sought
or deserved or appreciated is a
powerful way to promote the Gospel***

**In this is love, not that we have loved God but
that he loved us and sent his Son to be the
propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:10**

The background of the image is a dark, deep purple night sky filled with numerous small, bright stars. In the foreground, the dark, silhouetted branches of evergreen trees are visible, particularly on the left and bottom edges, adding a sense of depth and framing to the scene.

**Forgiveness is the fragrance that
the violet sheds on the heel that
has crushed it.**

Mark Twain

**⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, “I will confess my
transgressions to the Lord,”
and you forgave the iniquity of my
sin. *Selah***

**⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when
you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.**

**⁷ You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of
deliverance. *Selah***

2. The path to real forgiveness with God is confession (5-7)

- I acknowledged my sin- and stopped
covering up**
- I confessed to the Lord- and He came
thru!**
- I responded immediately when God
summoned**
- The results have been life-giving!**

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

⁹ Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

**10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one
who trusts in the Lord.**

**11 Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O
righteous, and shout for joy, all
you upright in heart!**

3. Now that I have been forgiven... what next?

- **This is a perfect moment to allow God to teach me big life lessons! (8)**
- **Now is the time to stop being mule-headed (9)**
 - **Gratitude! (10-11)**

Conclusion

- **Every person has the same entry point into a relationship with God... personal confession focused on Jesus Christ.**
- **Every Christian has the same path into ongoing intimacy with God... daily confession of sin.**
- **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)**