# Anchored

## 3 Keys of Forgiveness — Ephesians 4:32

"Be kind and helpful to one another, tender-hearted [compassionate, understanding], forgiving one another [readily and freely], just as God in Christ also forgave you." — EPHESIANS 4:32

Forgiveness is a sacred flow that starts with God's mercy and moves through every part of your life—toward others and even toward yourself. You cannot give what you haven't received, and you won't walk in freedom if you're still carrying shame. Scripture calls us to forgive "just as God in Christ also forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32 AMP). That means receiving His forgiveness fully, releasing those who've hurt you, and letting go of the guilt and regret you've held against yourself. Forgiveness doesn't erase the past—but it frees you from being controlled by it.

### ANCHORED: BY PEACE — PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 — Calm the Storm

Forgiveness is the flow of freedom—first from God, then through you, and finally within you.

#### **Spiritually Anchored:**

Forgiveness starts with receiving what Christ has already accomplished on your behalf. You are not working for it—you're agreeing with it. When you truly accept His forgiveness, you are empowered to release others without bitterness and extend grace to yourself without shame. Scripture makes it clear: "Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Forgiveness is the flow of grace—from heaven to your heart, through your relationships, and even into your internal dialogue. It is not weakness. It is divine strength expressed through mercy, trust, and surrender.

#### **Clinical Insight:**

Forgiveness isn't just a spiritual practice—it's a neurological and emotional reset. When you hold onto resentment, bitterness, or self-condemnation, your nervous system stays stuck in a cycle of stress and threat. But choosing to forgive—whether it's others or yourself—can calm the body, reduce anxiety, improve relationships, and rewire emotional patterns in the brain. Self-forgiveness is especially important for trauma survivors and perfectionists. It doesn't excuse the past—it releases you from being defined by it. Forgiveness makes space for emotional regulation, peace, and healing.

#### Life Application:

#### "Walk It Out: Let Forgiveness Become Your Lifestyle"

Take some time this week to walk through the three keys. Journal, pray, and breathe through each one:

- Have you fully received God's forgiveness—or are you still trying to earn it?
- Who are you still holding in debt emotionally, relationally, or spiritually?
- What parts of your past still haunt you with regret, shame, or self-condemnation?

]

Forgiveness is a process. But every act of release is an act of alignment with heaven.

#### Breathwork: "The Forgiveness Flow"

This practice combines breathwork with Scripture-based mental focus. Try this when you feel yourself becoming overwhelmed:

- Inhale slowly: "I receive Your mercy, Lord."
- Exhale gently: "I release the offense."
- Inhale again: "Your love covers me."
- Exhale: "I forgive myself, and I move forward."

#### Repeat this for 3-5 minutes in a quiet space.

**Pro Tip:** Incorporate this practice before prayer or meditation to center your mind and open your heart to God's presence

#### **Anchored Prayer**

Father,

Thank You for the cross—where forgiveness was secured for every sin, every wound, every offense. Help me to stop striving for what You've already given. Teach me to release those who've hurt me, not because they deserve it, but because I don't want to carry the burden any longer. And Lord, help me to agree with Your verdict over my life. I am forgiven. I am loved. I am new.

In Jesus' name, amen.

#### **Journal Prompts:**

1. Where in your life have you been resisting God's full forgiveness and still living under shame?

2. What would it look like to fully release someone—or yourself—into the hands of God today?