SERIES: SAY WHAT? – Does God Really Forgive Everything? **"When God Forgives"** Psalm 103:8-13 Tony Toth, Sept 15, 2019

I. WHY GOD FORGIVES

A. It's Part Of God's CHARACTER

Psalm 103:8 "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

B. God Values <u>RELATIONSHIPS</u>

John 17:24 "*"Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am,"*

II. WHEN GOD FORGIVES

A. God <u>REMEMBERS</u> Our Faults No More

Hebrews 10:17 The LORD adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

B. God <u>HEALS</u> Our Diseases

James 5:16 "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

C. God <u>COVERS</u> Our Debt

Romans 4:7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;"

D. God WASHES Away The Stain

Acts 22:16 "And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name."

E. God <u>REMOVES</u> Our Shame

Psalm 103:12 "as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us."

III. DOUBTING GODS FORGIVENESS

- A. When We Don't Feel WORTHY
- B. When We Want To EARN It
- C. Simply Respond With THANKFULNESS

THE NEXT FAITHFUL STEP

1. Which Image Of Forgiveness Is Your Favorite. Discuss with your family and friends this week which image of forgiveness means the most to you and why: Forgetting, Healing, Covering, Washing, Removing

2. Being Thankful: Are you struggling with feeling worthy of God's forgiveness? Are you feeling the weight of trying to earn God's forgiveness? Pick a time and place each day this week for just listing the things you are thankful for. You will end up positioning yourself to receive God's grace and to respond with gratefulness.