



the Panoplian

πανοπλίαν τοῦ Θεοῦ
“Armor of God”

Eph 6:11

Charizomai: to give free and unconditional forgiveness

Volume 3, Number 1, Nov 2024



Biblical Forgiveness

◇ Dr. Tim Deater, EdD p. 1

◇ Mrs. Jackie Schneider, MS Ed p. 3



It's Time to Skeet Shoot p. 5



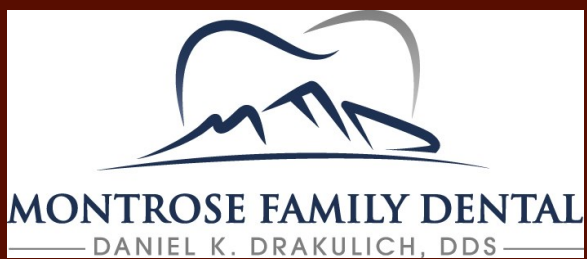
CWCS Senior Volleyball Athletes p. 7



Knight's Represent Montrose High School p. 8

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Pam Baer

In Memory of
Sally Erwin



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on Christian Education

What Is Biblical Forgiveness?

by

Dr. Tim Deater

Head of School



Class of '25, '27, '31, '35

Think back to the last time you made a mistake and needed forgiveness. How did you approach it? Did you simply approach the offended party and say "I'm sorry." Or did you seek something deeper? How often when we need forgiveness do we resort to "I'm sorry" instead of the following: "Wife, I came home frustrated because of my day and when dinner wasn't ready I took my frustrations out on you. I was wrong to do that. Will you forgive me?"

In the second example, there is a deeper awareness of the wrongdoing. There is a weight of guilt for the specific action, acknowledgment of the wrongdoing, and a specific request, "Will you forgive me?" Is this how we approach resolving our wrongdoings? If not I'd like to share with you the following thoughts.

Biblical forgiveness reflects the nature of God, who is described as "slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness" (Exodus 34:6, NIV). The Old Testament introduces the idea of forgiveness through God's interactions with Israel, highlighting His willingness to forgive sin and restore relationships. In Psalm 103:12, it is declared, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us," illustrating the completeness and unconditional nature of divine forgiveness.

The New Testament highlights forgiveness through the teachings of Jesus. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus instructs His followers to pray, "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (Matthew 6:12, NIV). This petition encapsulates the *reciprocal* nature of forgiveness: just as God forgives our sins, we are called to extend forgiveness to others. Jesus' parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:21-35) reinforces this principle, showing that forgiveness must be abundant and sincere, reflecting the mercies equally granted to us.

What are our responsibilities when someone asks for forgiveness? The nature of biblical forgiveness is such that we must not be passive in the act of forgiveness. When forgiveness is sought the offended party must be willing to relinquish all feelings of anger and bitterness. This does not imply that we must relinquish feelings of frustration and bitterness. This does not mean we are expected to condone the wrongdoing but we are to free ourselves from the burden of holding a grudge against a brother. Additionally, forgiveness is intended to mend relationships. Jesus in Matthew 5:23-24, advises that if something has something against you, you are to reconcile with them before presenting an offering at the altar. This means we are to rid our hearts of animosity and anxiousness before presenting ourselves before the Lord. Finally, forgiveness is characterized by grace, defined as unmerited favor or extending compassion despite the offense. When we ask Jesus for forgiveness of our sins the free gift of grace, He applies to us should be no less than what we freely give others.

Ultimately, forgiveness for us is communal. Paul exhorts the church in Colossians 3:13 to bear with one another and forgive grievances as the Lord forgave them. The communal aspect represents maintaining a healthy, supportive community which displays God's love for us in a practical way.

PAC UPDATES

- PAC meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month. Don't forget that PAC meetings count towards Deeds for Dollars
- PAC has new leadership team! Maddelon Bransom has been replaced by Elaine Wolford as PAC President. Nikki Kwiatkowski is the new Vice President and Gabby DeSimone is the new Secretary. Maddelon Bransom will retain the role of the Treasurer.
- PAC is planning a restaurant fundraiser in the near future... Stay tuned to Facebook and email for more details.
- During the month of October CWCS students will host a Boxtop Fundraiser. Please scan your grocery receipts into the BoxTops for Education app to help the PAC give back to our staff and students.
- If you haven't uploaded the BoxTop app you can do so and use the referral code F9OU0VX6. This will give you 25 bonus box tops when you scan your first receipt.
- The annual cookie mix fundraiser will take place at the end of November through the first of December.

Biblical Forgiveness?

by

Mrs. Jackie Schneider, MSED
Principal, Middle/High School

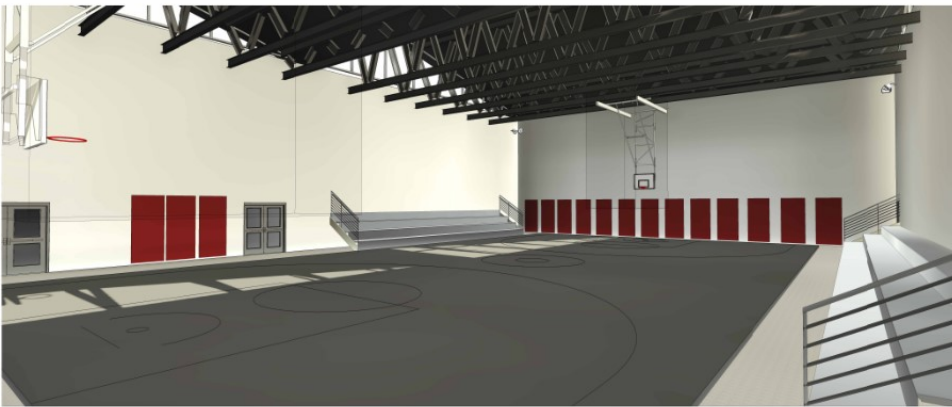
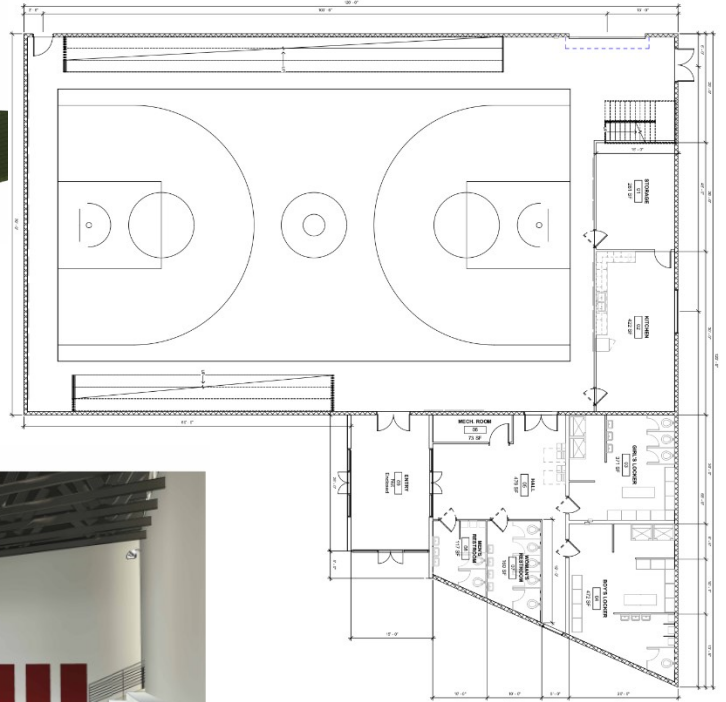


Without repentance, there is no forgiveness. These two work together in the sanctification of a Christian. Repentance is not just a quick "I'm sorry." It goes much deeper. Repentance, or a lack of, pours out from the condition of our hearts. We can have a hard stoney ungrateful heart that is mostly just sorry that we were caught. We can also have a soft pliable God-given heart of flesh that overflows with gratitude for the enormous debt from which we have been released. When it penetrates our hearts that we have been forgiven every wrong we have ever done and will ever do, it is petty to not forgive others who hurt us, because no one can sin against us as harshly as Jesus was sinned against.

As a child of God and a follower of Christ, we are commanded to forgive as Christ forgave us. Since it is a command from God, we do have the ability and the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish it. How easily and completely we forgive is proportional to the depths that we understand just how much we have been forgiven. No one can harm us so grievously that we cannot forgive. Think about the ungrateful servant in the story in Matthew 18:23-35. The servant was forgiven an amount in the millions of dollars, but he refused to forgive someone who owed him a few dollars. This servant did not compare these two amounts in his heart. He was happy to have been forgiven so he would not have to pay the penalty of being sold as a slave along with his family. This appeared to have no bearing in his decision not to forgive another person. His heart was hardened to another's need.

There was no repentance or gratitude in his heart, only relief from punishment. Gratitude is the feeling of appreciation or thankfulness for good and undeserved things in life. True gratitude also requires action on our part. When God forgives us, we are so grateful that we are eager to share it with others by forgiving them. Sometimes, when a hurt has wounded us deeply, we must forgive the person everyday for many days. We must act in loving ways towards them. We pray for them. We resist the sin of speaking poorly of them. We have to release them from our punishment. We don't celebrate their failures but rejoice in their successes. We release the past. We treat them the way we want to be treated. This is not easy for natural man. Just remember, we serve a supernatural God who will lead us through unforgiveness to forgiveness and the Holy Spirit will give us the strength.

CWCS' Future Starts NOW!



Architectural images by Jayla Stollsteimer

Images may not resemble final project.

What's Next at CWCS?

- ◇ Multi-use facility: PE, Recess, Pick-up/Drop-off during inclement weather, Cafeteria, auditorium, and athletic gym for CWCS sports.
- ◇ CWCS has raised 75% of the needed funds to complete the project.
- ◇ Help CWCS bring this project to life! To contribute contact Mrs. Maddelon Bransom at 970-249-1094 or email her at mbransom@cwcsmontrose.com



YOUR GIFT
Matters



CWCS KNIGHT'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- CWCS earmarks 10% of Income for Tuition Assistance
- National Average Tuition for Private Schools: \$12,000/yr
- CWCS Tuition 66% Below National Average
- Goal to keep tuition costs low to afford Christian Education to more families
- Rather than cut program corners to keep tuition low we want to partner



YOUR GIFT
Matters



CWCS INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS

- Since Academic Year 2019, CWCS Enrollment has grown 24%
- Projections indicate a continued increase in desire for Christian Education
- Partnered With Rivers Church (Delta) to Start Second Campus
- CWCS is working toward the development of:
 - Multi-use space: Gym, Auditorium, Commercial Kitchen
 - New Elementary Education Building for K4-4th Grades
 - 3 Classroom Addition to Accommodate 5th-7th Grade Growth for 2022
- Existing Infrastructure is more than 20 years old and renovations necessary
- Development of Lower, Middle and Upper School Curriculum Focus

IT'S TIME TO SHOOT SOME BIRDS!!!

Its almost time for our 5th Annual Skeet Shoot and Fundraiser. You have likely heard about how much fun it is to go out and fellowship and shoot clay pigeons, but unless you experience it first hand... you are missing out. If you are interested in sponsoring a team, or leading a team please contact Mrs. Maddelon Bransom at 970-249-1094 to make sign up. Bragging rights and Trophy's are on the line.



YOUR GIFT MATTERS!!!

Help CWCS Offer Christian Education to More Families in our Community!!!

2024 Key Initiatives:

Scholarship Fund and Infrastructure Fund

To Give, visit: <https://www.cwcsknights.com/support>

Help Our School Grow

- Future infrastructure goals include upgrades to the HVAC system, and a small gym to accommodate our sports programs, and for PE and recess during inclement weather.
- CWCS has raised approximately half of the needed funds to build the multi- purpose gym, and has applied for a grant to gain the additional funds.
- Beef raffle coming soon. 3 winners will be drawn and will receive a 60# meat bundle, which is provided by Mr. Randy Meaker.



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Dual enrollment courses are a great way for CWCS students to get started on their post-secondary education goals. If students are interested in starting dual enrollment courses please schedule a meeting with Dr. Deater during the beginning of their Sophomore year. This meeting will provide guidance and direction on the process and outcomes.

CWCS works with Oklahoma Baptist, Grand Canyon and Colorado Christian Universities to offer reduced fee dual enrollment courses.

Where CWCS Students Go To College



Senior Knights Athletes



Name: Jetta Beck

Grade: Senior

Sport: Volleyball

Level: Varsity

Position: Middle Hitter

How many years have you played? 5 Years

What are your plans after high school? Consider a career as a dental hygienist or dental assistant.



Name: Sam Deater

Grade: Senior

Sport: Volleyball

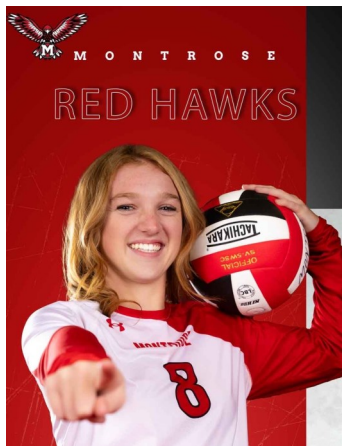
Level: Varsity

Position: Setter, MH

How many years have you played? 7 years.

What are your plans after high school? Plan to attend college at Abilene Christian University and pursue a degree in business.

KNIGHTS Representing At MHS



Name: Kenzie Freeland

Grade: Senior

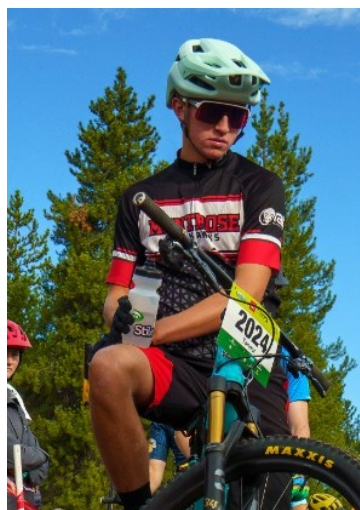
Sport: Volleyball

Level: Varsity

Position: Defensive Specialist

How many years have you played? 8 Years

What are your plans after high school? Join World Race for 9 mo missions service and then plan to attend college on the east



Name: Tanner Beck

Grade: Junior

Sport: Mountain Bike Team

Level: Varsity

Position: Rider

How many years have you played?

What are your plans after high school?



Name: Kaiden Pollard

Grade: Freshman

Sport: Soccer

Level: Varsity/Junior Varsity

Position: Goal Keeper

How many years have you played?

What are your plans after high school?

KNIGHTS Representing At MHS



Name: Liam Deater

Grade: Sophomore

Sport: Football

Level: Varsity/Junior Varsity

Position: Tight End/Outside Linebacker

How many years have you played? 2 Years

What are your plans after high school? My hope is to continue to improve (get bigger and faster) and have the opportunity earn a scholarship to play football and/or basketball in college.

Name: Jayvis Large

Grade: Sophomore

Sport: Football

Level: Varsity/Junior Varsity

Position: Fullback/Inside Linebacker

How many years have you played? 1 year.

What are your plans after high school? My hope is to continue to improve as this is my first year of football and have the opportunity to earn a scholarship to play football and/or basketball in college.

For Further Reflection...

What we are reading:



What we are listening to:

Dr. Voddie Baucham

<https://www.sermonaudio.com/sermonspeaker.asp>



Voddie Baucham wears many hats. He is a husband, father, pastor, author, professor, conference speaker and church planter. He currently serves as Pastor of Preaching at Grace Family Baptist Church in Spring, TX. He has served as an adjunct professor at the College of Biblical Studies in Houston, TX, and Union University in Jackson, TN. He has also lectured at Southern Seminary.

Voddie makes the Bible clear and demonstrates the relevance of God's word to everyday life. However, he does so without compromising the centrality of Christ and the gospel. Those who hear him preach find themselves both challenged and encouraged.

Christian Education 101

Podcast with Dr. Deater and various guests that highlight discussions on the value of Christian education socially, academically, and spiritually for our students and our families.

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/colorado-west-chris>

Follow us on Social Media

Alumni of Colorado West Christian School
Colorado West Christian School
CWCS Delta



The Ryan and Sally Fox Scholarship

The Foxes enrolled their daughters at CWCS in the mid 80's. Stephanie and Jennifer completed their K-12 education at Colorado West.

The Fox family did this as Christian education was a chief priority for their family. Despite facing the financial difficulties of life and private education, Ryan and Sally understood the value of Christian education and the commitment of private education. Ryan and Sally hope to provide an opportunity for those who can give financially to help support families with financial needs so they too may pursue the priority of a faith based education.

To give to this scholarship visit: www.cwcsknights.com/support

Invoice Number: "Ryan and Sally Fox"



Alumni?

Stay Connected

Join CWCS's Alumni Facebook Page @alumniwcs and/or @ColoradoWestChristianSchool

Refer a former student or family!!!

Entered in a quarterly drawing for CWCS t-shirts, hoodies, hats and more!

Email us their contact info at: office@cwcsmontrose.com

Subject Line: "Alumni Referral"

Colorado West Christian School

2705 Sunnyside Road

Montrose, Colorado 81401

