



FATHER AND SON: A CONVERSATION ABOUT REDEMPTION

with Paul and Mansell Amos

► FOCUS VERSES

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Matthew 6:14-15

► DISCUSSION

- 1. Though this podcast touches on many topics, at its core it's about the relationship between a father and son. (See *Proverbs 23:24*.)**
 - a. What was your own relationship with your father like?
 - b. What did you appreciate about how he raised you, and what did you chafe or rebel against?
 - c. How has your view of him and his parenting style changed as you've grown older?
- 2. Mansell speaks honestly about turning to alcohol to dull the stress and pain of his parents' divorce.**
 - a. Did family conflict ever drive you to a similar place?
 - b. Looking back, what do you think you needed most in the midst of that conflict, and what was keeping you from finding it?



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3. **Mansell had to have a difficult conversation with his father about having felt ignored and distant from him, but seeing change in his father helped mend their relationship and strengthen their faith.**
 - a. Are there lingering conflicts or resentments that still haven't healed in your relationship with your father?

 - b. What about other family members?

 - c. What do you think is the biggest factor standing in the way of reconciliation?

4. **In discussing how he forgave his father, Mansell admits to his own faults in the relationship, such as not being more receptive to Paul's outreach and responding with shame rather than offering grace.**
 - a. Looking back, are there things you may have contributed to conflict in your family that you couldn't see or admit to at the time?

 - b. Have you offered contrition for those things, and if not, what's made it hard for you to do so?

5. **As difficult as Mansell's football injury was, it ended up creating opportunities for which he's now grateful. Can you think of some opportunities in your own life that wouldn't have come about if you hadn't endured something unfortunate? *(See Romans 8:28.)***

6. **What would you go back and tell your 13-year-old self if you could? *(See Exodus 20:12.)***
 - a. What would you tell your dad in that same time period?

7. **"Let God change you," Mansell remembers one of his coaches telling him, "don't try to be anything other than yourself." *(See Philippians 1:6.)***
 - a. Do you feel like you've had to change into something other than who you really are to please or impress the people around you?

 - b. What kind of person would you want to be like if you didn't have to deal with that outside pressure?

