

I couldn't forgive him

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For the last two years I have been chained by the difficulty of forgiving a person who hurt me a lot and made me suffer. I prayed to God every day for this person but I felt that I could not forgive him and the hurt seemed to increase.

One day, after praying in a chapel where there is relic of St Josemaría Escrivá, I found a small booklet called *Novena for Forgiveness*. I thought immediately that I should try it; but my difficulty would be the English language, as I don't master it for reading, and this detail discouraged me. But I took the small booklet and put it in the bag.

When I got home and opened the book, I came across the fact that the author is a Brazilian priest!! Happiness spread over me because Portuguese is my mother-tongue and I realized that St Josemaría was helping me. I got the novena in Portuguese through the internet and started it with my heart. I was only on the fourth day of the novena when I felt in my heart a great joy in forgiving and also in asking for forgiveness. The grace of God reached me and I managed to go to the person. I managed to confess.

And all I feel at this moment is great peace and a happy and grateful heart. St Josemaría pray for us.

I will be happy if you publish my experience. I sent it because I also want more people to find the way to forgiveness. Also, I already send the novena booklet to people who ask me.

XX, Oxford

16 February 2020

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