

FORGIVENESS

Tough Talk About Forgiveness

The next day he saw
some coming toward him, and said, "Blessed are the servants of
God, who make every the will of the world. There is he of
whom I said. After me comes a man who makes his own
because he was before me. I myself did not know him, but
for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might
be revealed as Christ."

Matthew 6:12

The next day he saw
some coming toward him, and said, "Blessed are the servants of
God, who make every sin of the world. There is no sin of
which I am not a servant. I am a servant of the devil because
he was before me. I myself did not know him, but
for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might
be revealed to Israel."

Matthew 6:14–15

Forgiveness is a legal word

- **Canceling debt (Matthew 6:12)**
- ***Jesus—"You cancel the debt of others, and God will cancel yours."***

Forgiveness opens the cage and sets them free. More importantly, it sets you free.



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What is Forgiveness?

**Forgiveness Doesn't Minimize-It
Maximizes**



- **Joseph (Gen. 41:51) “God has made me forget all my trouble...”**
- **It’s a hard choice, but what better choice do you have?**
- **Harboring hatred towards other only creates bitterness.**

Forgiveness Doesn't Mean You Forget Their Sin

- **You remember it, but you refuse to rehearse it**

**Forgiveness Doesn't Mean You Put
Yourself in a Position to be Injured Again**

- **Jesus is not promoting that we become chumps (Romans 6:1)**
- **Government holds law-breakers accountable (Romans 13)**
- **The local church holds sinners accountable (1 Cor. 5)**
- **Personally, we turn it over to God, and refuse to rehearse it.**

Reasons We Fail to Forgive

- The hurt is too big
- Time will heal
- I'll forgive when she says she's sorry (Heb. 6:9)
- I'll forgive, but I won't forgive
- If I forgive him, someone has to make him pay (2 Thes. 1:6; Rom. 12:19)

The next day he saw
men coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of
God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of
whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me,
because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but
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2 Thessalonians 1:6

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Romans 12:19

WHAT ABOUT...

Luke 17:3-"If your brother repents, forgive him."

**I am only obligated to forgive if the
offending party asks me for forgiveness!**

- **With that attitude, you probably will never forgive any way**
- **Do you think Jesus is saying you are free to hold a grudge?**
 - **Jesus (Luke 23:34)**
 - **Stephen (Acts 7:60)**
- **Because I release someone doesn't mean God does.**

PETER, JESUS, AND FORGIVENESS

Peter, Jesus, and Forgiveness

- Jesus vs. Jewish Culture, vs. 21
- The story, vv. 23-35

Peter, Jesus, and Forgiveness

- **Jesus vs. Jewish Culture, vs. 21**
- **The story, vv. 23-35**
- **Has the cross taken hold of your life and changed you?**

Failing to forgive is like scattering toxic garbage all over the house. What God see in your heart?

Forgive, let go, move one, turn it over to God. Be released from your own cage.