

## Scripture References

John 8:4-5, 7, 10-11 "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ... "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ... "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared.

Mark 2:7 "Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Matthew 18:21-35 At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, "Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?" Jesus replied, "Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven. "The kingdom of God is like a king who decided to square accounts with his servants. As he got under way, one servant was brought before him who had run up a debt of a hundred thousand dollars. He couldn't pay up, so the king ordered the man, along with his wife, children, and goods, to be auctioned off at the slave market. "The poor wretch threw himself at the king's feet and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it all back.' Touched by his plea, the king let him off, erasing the debt. "The servant was no sooner out of the room when he came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him ten dollars. He seized him by the throat and demanded, 'Pay up. Now!' "The poor wretch threw himself down and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it all back.' But he wouldn't do it. He had him arrested and put in jail until the debt was paid. When the other servants saw this going on, they were outraged and brought a detailed report to the king. "The king summoned the man and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave your entire debt when you begged me for mercy. Shouldn't you be compelled to be merciful to your fellow servant who asked for mercy?' The king was furious and put the screws to the man until he paid back his entire debt. And that's exactly what my Father in heaven is going to do to each one of you who doesn't forgive unconditionally anyone who asks for mercy."

Col 3:13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

1 Peter 4:8 NKJV And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."

1 Cor 13:4-5 TLB Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and *will hardly even notice when others do it wrong.*

Prov 19:11 A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense.

## Priceless

Dec 8, 2019

### Fred Hennes, Sermon #654, "The gift of FORGIVENESS" (Col 3:13)

Unforgiveness is spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ capable of draining life from your soul.

The fact that Jesus forgave sins is a strong \_\_\_\_\_ to his claim to be God.

"We all believe that \_\_\_\_\_ is a beautiful idea until we have to practice it." CS Lewis

"I think that if God forgives us, we must forgive others. Otherwise, it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher \_\_\_\_\_ than Him." CS Lewis

Forgiveness does not change your \_\_\_\_\_, but it can change your \_\_\_\_\_.

When we are sinned against (hurt) we as Christians have two options. One is to resolve through \_\_\_\_\_. The other is to cover up the \_\_\_\_\_.

**God takes our sins – the past, present, and future, and dumps them in the sea and puts up a sign that says no \_\_\_\_\_ allowed. Corrie Ten Boom**

Forgiveness is not an emotion. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the will.

## Life Group Activity

1. In your opinion, what would be the most difficult thing to forgive another person for?

## Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?

3. What is the most grievous offense that you have had to forgive? How long did it take?

4. To forgive, must one also forget? Explain.

5. What do you consider to be the worst side effects of an inability to forgive another person for the wrong they have done to you? Do you think that God shares your perspective?

6. Some offenses (hurts) need to be resolved through confrontation. Others need to be covered over. What factors for you determine which of these two courses to take?

**Application Questions & Prayer**

7. Are there any old wounds you are carrying as a result of another person who has wronged you? What would it take for you to let them go? Be specific.

8. Think about anyone in your life who you hold a grievance against. Submit these grievances to God as your act of love in bearing up with the offender. Through your love, cover these sins that you may be set free.

9. Pray for one another so that your group may excel in the grace of forgiveness.