

Learn to be Forgiving!

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.

Learn to be Forgiving!

Celebrate Summer Series

Let God Use Me

Sunday September 23, 2018

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”
Ephesians 4:32 ESV

Biblical Definition: Forgiveness —

The freeing of a person from guilt and its consequences, including punishment; usually as an act of favour, compassion or love, with the aim of restoring a broken personal relationship. Forgiveness can involve both the remission of punishment and the cancellation of debts.

(Manser, M. H. (2009). Dictionary of Bible Themes: Martin Manser)

**If we are going to pray the prayer God Use Me....
I Must Be Forgiving!**

Forgiving Others—Sets Me Free

People Will Offend Me, Count On It!

“When King David came to Bahurim, there came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera, and as he came he cursed continually. And he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David, and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.”
2 Samuel 16:5–6 ESV

“And Shimei said as he cursed, “Get out, get out, you man of blood, you worthless man! The LORD has avenged on you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned, and the LORD has given the kingdom into the hand of your son Absalom. See, your evil is on you, for you are a man of blood.””
2 Samuel 16:7–8 ESV

“And Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjaminite, from Bahurim, hurried to come down with the men of Judah to meet King David... As the king was about to cross the river, Shimei fell down before him.”
2 Samuel 19:17-18b ESV

The Danger of Not Forgiving

“Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many.” Hebrews 12:15 NLT

God Reserves the Privilege of Revenge

“Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.” Romans 12:19 ESV

“
and said to the king, ‘Let not my lord hold me guilty or remember how your servant did wrong on the day my lord the king left Jerusalem. Do not let the king take it to heart. For your servant knows that I have sinned. Therefore, behold, I have come this day, the first of all the house of Joseph to come down to meet my lord the king.’”
2 Samuel 19:19–20 ESV

1. Go and Make Things Right

“So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.” Matthew 5:23–24 ESV

2. Be Specific About Your Sin

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9 ESV

3. Be Discerning – Follow Biblical Advice

“Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered, ‘Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD’s anointed?’”
2 Samuel 19:21 ESV

“But David said, ‘What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should this day be as an adversary to me? Shall anyone be put to death in Israel this day? For do I not know that I am this day king over Israel?’”
2 Samuel 19:22 ESV

4. Keep Your Word

“And the king said to Shimei, ‘You shall not die.’ And the king gave him his oath.” 2 Samuel 19:23 ESV

“And there is also with you Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjaminite from Bahurim, who cursed me with a grievous curse on the day when I went to Mahanaim. But when he came down to meet me at the Jordan, I swore to him by the LORD, saying, ‘I will not put you to death with the sword.’ Now therefore do not hold him guiltless, for you are a wise man. You will know what you ought to do to him, and you shall bring his gray head down with blood to Sheol.”
1 Kings 2:8–9 ESV

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