

Living Insight

It is not at all easy to forgive those who have sinned against us. For so many people, the pain is still very real. Even though we have the best example in the life and death of Jesus Christ, we still struggle with the idea of forgiving others. Forgiveness is a choice that we must make if we desire for God to forgive us. It is a choice that releases two people from prison. It is very obvious that we release the sinner, but we also release ourselves. Let's make the difficult choice and truly forgive one another from the heart.

~ As Always, Grace & Peace,

Ed



Prayer Requests



CHURCH OF CHRIST Sixteenth & Decatur

Sermon Outline

Choosing to Forgive

Matthew 18:21-30

Date: Sunday, September 28, 2014

Time: 11:00 A.M.

Choosing to Forgive



I. It is All about Relationships.

A. Jesus demonstrated how precious people are to Him.

1. He understood the importance of humility.
2. He loved those who were lost. ~ *Matt. 18:12*
3. Jesus taught His disciples about forgiveness.

B. He gave us the best way to resolve conflicts.

1. His teaching was direct and challenging.
2. *“Go to him and show him his fault.....”*
3. The circle becomes gradually larger later on.

C. Our Lord cared about Relationships.

1. He gave us the example by being willing to die.
2. He taught us to choose forgiveness.
3. He made divine forgiveness conditional.

II. How Do We Make the Correct, but Difficult Choice?

A. We must learn that Forgiveness is a Choice.

1. God chose to forgive us ~ *Psalms 103:9-12*
2. We must choose to forgive our brother.
3. Why did the servant choose to not forgive?

B. Forgiveness unlocks two prison doors.

1. We live locked up & do not even know it.
~ *John 8:31-34*
2. We release the other person and ourselves.
3. Both servants ended up in prison.

C. Forgiveness is Conditional & Commanded.

1. Jesus made forgiveness conditional. (*Matt. 6:14*)
2. We are commanded to forgive. (*Col. 3:12-14*)
3. The Lord puts forgiveness in our hands.

Matthew 18:21-30

III. There is too much at stake if we lose this battle.

A. We will lose precious relationships now.

1. Too many people regret their lives.
2. We do not want to go to the grave bitter.

B. We will lose our most precious relationship.

1. Most of us want to live in peace.
2. The Lord gave us our greatest peace.
3. Do not forfeit your most precious gift.

Special Update

*Be sure to join us for our Midweek Bible Study
on Wednesday Night as we study 1 Peter 3.*

Start Time: 7:30 p.m.



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