

# PRAYER BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Forgiveness:

1. Forgiveness as Worship: The Six Challenges of Forgiveness in Luke 17 (add Communion notes to this: Communion = celebration of forgiveness, Communion is worship.)

## Forgiveness is not 'a choice' for Christians:

- #1.) LIVE a lifestyle that does not cause others to stumble (Matthew 18:6; Mark 9:42)
- #2.) GUARD your heart.
- #3.) GUARD your heart so you can rebuke while taking no offense
- #4.) Living as a forgiven person comes with responsibilities.
- #5.) ASK for supernatural help
- #6.) Forgiveness is an act of duty....forgiveness is an act of Worship
  - 2. What Forgiveness Is/What Forgiveness is Not
  - 3. The Role of Anger in Forgiveness: Is it legitimate?
  - 4. Forgiving Oneself (Understanding Your Salvation)
  - 5. Equality Beliefs
  - 6. Making Judgements
  - 7. Boundaries in Forgiveness
  - 8. Necessary Endings: The Wise, The Foolish, The Evil
  - 9. The Role Grief Plays in Forgiveness
  - 10. Addressing Conflict: Peace Maker v.s. Peace Lover
  - 11. The Art of Relinquishing Control

## **MUST FIND SOURCE FOR TOP TEN LIST**

## Colossians 1:13-14 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

[<sup>13</sup> For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, <sup>14</sup> who purchased our freedom<sup>[a]</sup> {with His blood] and forgave our sins. NLT]

**GOAL:** Foundational Understanding of what Forgiveness Is and what Forgiveness Is Not

Opening Slides: Is this what I think Forgiveness means

## **Top 10 of what Forgiveness is not:**

## **Forgiveness is not:**

**1.** Approval of what they did.

God never approves of our sin, yet He cares for us. Genesis 3:21

And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Jesus did the same. John 8:11

<sup>\*</sup>Communion slaps us with forgiveness each time we enter into this ordinance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people



came to him, and he sat down and taught them. <sup>3</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst <sup>4</sup> they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" <sup>6</sup> This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. <sup>7</sup> And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup> And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup> But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. <sup>10</sup> Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup> She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

## Forgiveness is not:

2. Excusing what they did. Numbers 14:11-12 (13-19) 20-24

Chapter 13 = Spying out the land of Canaan. 10 spies = NO! There are giants in the land. 2 spies = YES! We have already seen the miracles God can do!!!!

## **Forgiveness is not:**

3. Justifying what they did. Numbers 14:11-12 (13-19) 20-24

And the LORD said to Moses, "How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them? <sup>12</sup> I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they."

#### Moses Intercedes for the People

<sup>13</sup> But Moses said to the LORD, "Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for you brought up this people in your might from among them, <sup>14</sup> and they will tell the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that you, O LORD, are in the midst of this people. For you, O LORD, are seen face to face, and your cloud stands over them and you go before them, in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. <sup>15</sup> Now if you kill this people as one man, then the nations who have heard your fame will say, <sup>16</sup> 'It is because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land that he swore to give to them that he has killed them in the wilderness.' <sup>17</sup> And now, please let the power of the Lord be great as you have promised, saying, <sup>18</sup> 'The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, to the third and the fourth generation.' <sup>19</sup> Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now."

<sup>20</sup> Then the Lord said, "I have pardoned, according to your word. <sup>21</sup> But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord, <sup>22</sup> none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, <sup>23</sup> shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it. <sup>24</sup> But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.

#### **Psalm 106:45** ESV

<sup>45</sup> For their sake He remembered His covenant, and relented according to the abundance of His steadfast love.

### **Forgiveness is not:**

**4.** Exonerating (absolve, acquit) them for what they did. To release from consequences.

#### Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



## **Forgiveness is not:**

**5.** Reconciliation.

It requires the participation of two people. It means to restore.

- When is this not possible in relationships? Only one side seeks, repents, etc.
- When is it possible? Both sides are committed to growth.

#### 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.

We implore you on behalf of Christ,

- (1) be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,
- (2) so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Do not put reconciliation with man before reconciliation with God. If the other party is not willing to reconcile/repent...you are to wait on your reconciliation in the relationship. BOUNDARIES

## **Forgiveness is not:**

- **6**. Denying what they did. Repression.
  - a. being kept down by force: the process of suppressing somebody or the condition of having political, social, or cultural freedom controlled by force.
  - b. Psychological protective mechanism: in Freudian psychology, a mechanism by which individuals protect themselves from threatening thoughts by blocking them out of the conscious mind

#### **Forgiveness is not:**

**7.** Blindness to what happened. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 How do these two ideas meet? (in verse 6...focuses on the TRUTH)

## 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, **but rejoices with the truth.** <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

### **Forgiveness is not:**

**8.** Forgetting their sins' no more. Why does He choose to: Because we are in relationship with Him.

#### **Hebrews 8:10-12**

"For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. If And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

<sup>12</sup> For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."



IS IT HUMANLY POSSIBLE TO NOT REMEMBER HURT OUTSIDE OF AMNESIA OR REPRESSION?

## **Forgiveness is not:**

**9.** Refusing to take wrong seriously.

Does this treat sin as not sin? Does this rejoice in the truth? [If you were not taking it seriously, you would state/have these thoughts/excuse....Yield Statements: Boys will be boys. It's just funny. Excusing the situation away.]

## **Forgiveness is not:**

**10.** Pretending we are not hurt.

[If you were not taking your feelings seriously, you would state/have these thoughts/excuse...Yield Statements: It is not that big of a deal. I am just too emotional. They did not mean it that way. *Excusing* the other person(s) behavior.]

#### Samuel let Saul know:

## 1 Samuel 13:13-14

<sup>13</sup> And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the command of the LORD your God, with which he commanded you. For then the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. <sup>14</sup> But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought out a man after his own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."

#### God let Samuel know:

## 1 Samuel 15:10-13

<sup>10</sup> The word of the Lord came to Samuel: <sup>11</sup> "I regret<sup>[e]</sup> that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not performed my commandments." And Samuel was angry, and he cried to the Lord all night. <sup>12</sup> And Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning. And it was told Samuel, "Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself and turned and passed on and went down to Gilgal." <sup>13</sup> And Samuel came to Saul, and Saul said to him, "Blessed be you to the Lord. I have performed the commandment of the Lord."



## Top 10 of what Total Forgiveness is:

## Forgiveness is:

**1.** Being aware of what someone has done and choosing to forgive them. Aware: Knowledgeable, Mindful, Watchful.

## Forgiveness is:

2. Choosing to keep NO records of wrongs. (Tie in w/#8 on NOT list. There is no forgive and forget. There is forgive and not rejoicing in their wrongdoing...since He doesn't, we do not.)

## 1 Corinthians 13:4-6

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it **does not rejoice at wrongdoing**, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

#### Psalm 103:12

as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

#### Isaiah 38:17 ESV

Behold, it was for my welfare that I had great bitterness; but in love you have delivered my life from the pit of destruction, for you have cast all my sins behind your back.

#### Isaiah 43:25

"I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

#### Micah 7:19

He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

## Forgiveness is:

**3.** Refusing to punish. [Ways we 'punish' those who hurt us.]

## **Deuteronomy 32:35**

Vengeance is mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly.'

## **Romans 12:19**

<sup>19</sup> 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."

Hebrews 10:30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, (B) "The Lord will judge his people."

## Forgiveness is:

**4.** Not telling what they did. Forgiving as I have been forgiven.

#### Romans 8:28

<sup>28</sup> And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

He saves us and redeems our past as well. He does not erase it.



## Forgiveness is:

**5..** Being merciful.

## Matthew 5:7

Blessed are the merciful, For they shall receive mercy.

#### **Luke 6:36**

<sup>36</sup> Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

**Proverbs 11:17** A man who is kind benefits himself, but a cruel man hurts himself.

## Forgiveness is:

**6.** Graciousness. Forebearant, Tolerant.

## **Philippians 4:5**

<sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness (consideration, graciousness) be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;

## James 5:8

## 1 Thessalonians 3:13

<sup>13</sup> so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

They all refer to His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming, why?

## Forgiveness is:

**7.** It is an inner condition.

It is a matter of the heart, not just the head. If our hearts have forgiven, our words will show it. It does not matter if we reconcile, it does not matter if they repent, it does not matter if they justify it.

## **Matthew 12:34b** (Luke 6:45)

You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

## Matthew 15:18-19

But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

Do you want to know if you have forgiven someone...how do you speak of them?

#### Forgiveness is:

**8.** It is the absence of bitterness. (Genesis 27:41Esau hating Jacob and planning to kill him)

Bitterness: An excessive desire for vengeance that comes from deep resentment.

## Ephesians 4:30-32

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.<sup>31</sup> Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup> Be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.



kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

#### **Hebrews 12:15**

See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled;

## Forgiveness is:

**9.** Forgiving God. (Romans 8:28)
"All bitterness is ultimately traceable to a resentment of God." Agree/Disagree

## Romans 8:28 ... Do I believe this?

<sup>28</sup> And we know that for those who love God all things work together or good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

## Forgiveness is:

**10.** Forgiving ourselves. Wasn't Jesus' sacrifice good enough for me?

## Hebrews 2:11 (ESV)

<sup>II</sup> For He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why He is not ashamed to call them brothers, **Hebrews 2:11-13** HCSB

<sup>11</sup> For the One who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers, <sup>12</sup> saying:

I will proclaim Your name to My brothers;

I will sing hymns to You in the congregation.

<sup>13</sup> Again, I will trust in Him. And again, Here I am with the children God gave Me.

#### Psalm 22:22 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

#### Footnotes:

- a. Hebrews 2:11 Greek all are of one
- b. Hebrews 2:11 Or brothers and sisters. The plural Greek word adelphoi (translated "brothers") refers to siblings in a family. In New Testament usage, depending on the context, adelphoi may refer either to men or to both men and women who are siblings (brothers and sisters) in God's family, the church; also verse 12

#### KINGDOM DYNAMICS

2:11 Praise Releases the Spirit of Prophecy, PRAISE PATHWAY. This text quotes the messianic prophecy in Ps. 22:22, showing how the Spirit of the Christ fills the NT church, and how Christ identifies Himself so closely with His people when they sing praises. As they do, two important things happen: 1) He joins in the song Himself, and 2) this praise releases the spirit of prophecy. The latter is in the words "I will declare Your name to My brethren." As we joyfully sing praise to our God, Christ comes to flood our minds with the glory of the Father's character ("name"). There is no doubt about it—the praises of the people in the church service release the spirit of prophetic revelation—the magnifying of God through Jesus Christ. Thus, praise introduces edification, exhortation, and comfort to bless the whole body.

**2:11** There is a profound unity between Jesus and those He saves. We are **brethren** because in physical birth Jesus shares our descent from Adam, and in the new birth believers become members of the family of God.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Spirit filled life study Bible. 1997 (J. W. Hayford, Ed.) (electronic ed.) (Heb 2:10-11). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.