
BLUEPRINT: Relationships Series - Episode IV Forgiveness

Matthew 18:21-35

The Parable of The Unforgiving Servant

Forgive others without limitation

“**Remember** that at that time you were separate from Christ... without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For He Himself is our **peace**, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.”

Ephesians 2:12-14 (NIV)

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, **forgiving** each other, **just as** in Christ God **forgave** you.” **Ephesians 4:31-32** (NIV)

3 Steps to Freedom:

1. Receive God’s Forgiveness.

“You’ll never have to forgive anybody more than God has already forgiven you.” -Chris Hodges

“Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown **mercy** because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. 14 The **grace** of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the **faith** and **love** that are in Christ Jesus. 15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to **save**

sinners — of whom I am the worst.”

I Timothy 1:13-15 (NIV)

2. Freely Give What You Have Received.

“**Freely** you have **received**; **freely give.**”

Matthew 10:8 (NIV)

The forgiven forgive.

“For **Christ’s love** compels us, because we are convinced that **One** died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again. 18 All this is from God, who **reconciled** us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**: 19 that God was **reconciling** the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of **reconciliation...**”

II Corinthians 5:14-19 (NIV)

“We are therefore Christ’s **ambassadors**, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be **reconciled** to God.”

II Corinthians 5:20 (NIV)

3. Go first.

“But God demonstrates His own **love** for us in this: While we were **still sinners**, **Christ died for us.**”

Romans 5:8 (NIV)

Choices lead, feelings follow.

“Yet not what I will, but what **You will.**” **Mark 14:36** (NIV)