

September 17, 2017
“The Power To Forgive”
(Matthew 18: 21-35)

Sometimes _____ can be deliciously sweet, but most of us understand that _____ is not a satisfactory response to being hurt.

Neither is carrying around a lifetime of _____ feelings. The answer is _____.

There have persons who have wronged us and it is so difficult to let go of our feelings of _____, resentment and even _____.

Forgiveness is to our _____ as much as it is for the person who injured us.

_____ is a redemptive act that is essential to our _____, emotional and _____ well-being.

We must move from our hurt to _____ or else we leave an open wound that is not allowed to heal.

Why do we find it so hard to forgive?

One answer is that the pain is simply too _____ to forgive.

_____ can also get in the way of forgiveness.

Holding on to _____ feelings can shorten our lives, poison our _____, weaken our relationship with God and even affect our own feelings of _____ - _____.

3 benefits to that come from moving past resentment to forgiveness:

- 1.- There is a _____ benefit.
- 2.- There is a _____ benefit to forgiveness.
- 3.- There's a _____ benefit.

3 Ways to let go and Forgive:

- 1.- By recognizing that forgiveness is a _____ from God.**
(over)

We have been forgiven by God. We are sinners saved by _____.

We remember just how much God has _____ us and we are enabled to _____.

2.- We need to recognize that forgiveness is the most powerful _____ we have to the _____ of grace in our own lives.

The _____ of a grudge has becomes a deep _____ problem.

Besides doing damage to us personally, it prevents us from being _____ in our ministry to others.

Forgiveness is a gift from God to be _____ on to others.

3.- Forgiveness is a _____ activity necessary to the _____ and wholeness of our own hearts.

Erika Jones (*Reader's Digest*) – “*I never regret forgiving the person who caused me pain, which gave me relief I never thought I could have.*”

Hannah Arendt: “*Forgiveness is the only power which can stop the stream of painful memories.*”

Forgiveness is not a _____ resignation to a bad situation.

There's little _____ in that kind of forgiveness.

Forgiveness is a _____, joyful activity in which we change from seeing ourselves as _____ to seeing ourselves as _____.

Forgiveness allows us to _____ within our own lives the power and the presence of the _____ Christ!

Is there someone you need to forgive?

Forgive and find the emotional, mental and spiritual freedom that only Christ can give. There IS power to Forgive!