

Forgiveness For Good

The Real "F" Word (#2)

5-27-07

Today 4 wonderful **benefits** of unleashing forgiveness...

1. THE EMOTIONAL BENEFIT IS UNBELIEVABLE

- God has feeling too... we are made in his image - we are emotional...

Job 5:2 Unforgiveness can eat our emotions alive. (Tear us apart)

So many people are negative today- challenge you to look behind the negativity to the "what" to the why.

2. THE RELATIONAL BENEFIT IS UNBELIEVABLE.

Eph 4:32 *Jesus was involved in "**preemptive forgiveness.**"

*** **I should forgive others before they do their part or if they NEVER do their part.**

Classic example Joseph & his brothers. **Gen 50:17-20**

3. THE PHYSICAL BENEFIT IS UNBELIEVABLE

Pro 14:30 Don't you see the brilliance of God?

How loving God is- He doesn't want us to live our lives chained to a bench loaded with people that messed us over.

4. THE SPIRITUAL BENEFIT IS UNBELIEVABLE

Mark 11:25-26; Mt 18:34-35

* So I have a choice to walk in forgiveness starts when I realize that Christ forgave me and I can forgive others.

* I have talked to people that say, "**I understand that God has forgiven me vertically but I have a hard time with that horizontally because I don't feel/like I have forgiven myself.**"

* The moment we **receive** forgiveness we will **experience** forgiveness by releasing others horizontally... then as the forgiveness works we will feel FORGIVEN.

Luke 19:8-9 Zacchaeus understood releasing & forgiveness.

Col 3:13 **Three thoughts with that verse in light...** as a believer in Jesus

Unforgiveness keeps the believer from the greatness God wants for them.

- (1) Consider the cross- what he has done for us- before we were even born.
- (2) Realize that resentment will NOT take you where you want to go. Release them, forgive them.
- (3) Realize that you are going to need MONSTER forgiveness in the future.

Conclusion:

- * So many people are tied up to a bench
- * "God give me the grace to forgive _____ that did _____ to me."
- * Some need to go someone and ask for forgiveness.