

Evening Series: "Forgiving Others"

"...forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32)

- 11 Sept: "The Key to Forgiving"
(Matthew 18:21-35)
- 18 Sept: "Two Ways to Forgive"
(1 Peter 4:8; Matthew 18:15-20)
- 25 Sept: "That Forgiving Feeling"
(Psalm 85:2-3; Hebrews 10:17-18; Ephesians 4:31-5:1)
- 02 Oct: "The Keys of Forgiveness"
(John 20:21-23)



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That Forgiving Feeling

Readings:

Psalm 85:1-3

Hebrews 10:11-18

Ephesians 4:30-5:2





What forgiving is and isn't...

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³²Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. ^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

(Ephesians 4:32-5:2)

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(Ephesians 4:32-5:2)

What forgiving is and isn't...

Blessed is the one

whose transgression is forgiven,

whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man

against whom the LORD counts no iniquity...

(Psalm 32:1-2)

Forgiveness is...

... Not counting sin against the other

... Keeping another's sin out of view

What forgiving is and isn't...

²You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you covered all their sin. Selah.

³You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

(Psalm 85:2-3)

Forgiveness is...

... Not counting sin against the other

... Keeping another's sin out of view

What forgiving is and isn't...

¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God... ¹⁷then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." ¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

(Hebrews 10:12,17,18)

Forgiveness is...

... Not counting sin against the other

... Keeping another's sin out of view

What forgiving is and isn't...

“The way we cancel the debt of one who has sinned against us is by promising not to bring it up to the offender, to others, or to ourselves. We joyfully resolve never to throw the sin back into the face of the one who committed it. We promise never to hold it over their head, using it to manipulate and shame them. And we promise never to bring it up to others in an attempt to justify ourselves or to undermine their reputation. And lastly, we promise never to bring it up to ourselves as grounds for self-pity or to justify our resentment of the person who hurt us.” – Sam Storms

(source: <http://www.samstorms.com/all-articles/post/forgiveness:-what-it-is--what-it-is-not>)

... Not counting sin against the other

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Forgiveness isn't...

... Completely forgetting the offence

What forgiving is and isn't...

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Forgiveness isn't...

... Release from any and all consequences

What forgiving is and isn't...

David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die."

(2 Samuel 12:13-14)

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Forgiveness isn't...

... Release from any and all consequences

(punishment vs... discipline, benefit of others, trust etc)

What forgiving is and isn't...

Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honourable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. (Romans 12:17-18)

Forgiveness is...

... no vindictiveness or “pay back”

... seeking peace instead of hostility

What forgiving is and isn't...

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."

(Romans 12:19)

Forgiveness is...

... Leaving justice in God's hands
(even if that means in Christ!)

What forgiving is and isn't...

To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:20-21)

Forgiveness is...

... Freely giving love not hate

What forgiving is and isn't...

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...forgive your brother from your heart." (Matthew 18:35)

Forgiveness is...

... given even if you don't feel like it
(cf grief and physical pain)

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Forgiveness is...

... given even if you don't feel like it

(cf grief and physical pain)

... as often as required

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²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

(Ephesians 4:32)

...forgive your brother from your heart." (Matthew 18:35)

Forgiveness is...

... freely and graciously given!

(not a legal transaction)

... in the likeness of God's own heart

That forgiving feeling...

“And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

(Ephesians 4:30-5:2)