

Forgive One Another

Series: The One Others

Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Colossians 3:12-17

Four Reasons To Forgive One Another:

I. We Must Forgive One Another To Have An Understanding of Our Forgiveness

bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. Colossians 3:13

For with what [a] judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. Matthew 7:2

“So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother [a]his trespasses.” Matthew 18:35

For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment. James 2:13

A. Forgiveness Is Hard

Example: Joseph And His Brothers

But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. Genesis 50:20

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

B. Forgiveness Is An Act of Faith

Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. 20 Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:19-21

We Forgive Because:

- God commands it
- Our own forgiveness hinges on it
- It is the best thing for us

When we refuse to forgive, the bitterness grows like a cancer within us and it eats away at us, causing stress and illness and a great lack of joy.

It is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die.

The only therapy for this cancer is the surgery of forgiveness.

If we refuse to forgive, we allow the sin against us to hurt us twice.

II. We Must Forgive One Another To Have The Peace of God Rule In Our Hearts

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Colossians 3:15

A. Peace With The Brethren

I can do all things through [a]Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

B. Peace With The Lord

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

5 Let your [b]gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. 9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:4-9

C. Peace In All Circumstances

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your[c] care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for

*I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to [d]be abased, and I know how to [e]abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through [f]Christ who strengthens me. 14 Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. 15 Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. 16 For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. 17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. 18 Indeed I [g]have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. 19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:10-19***

III. We Must Forgive One Another To Have The Word of Christ Dwell In Us Richly

“Dwell” - to feel at home.

If we have experienced the grace and the peace of Christ, then the Word of Christ will “feel at home” in our hearts.

The Christian life involves attention to three books:

- Bible
- Songbook
- Pocketbook

IV. We Must Forgive One Another To Have Our Words And Deeds Glorify The Name of Christ

*17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. **Colossians 3:17***

A. The word “Christian” is found only three times in the entire New Testament

- Acts 1:26 - A Life To Live
- Acts 26:28 - A Decision To Make
- 1 Peter 4:16 - A Price To Pay

B. The Name of Christ Means:

1. Identification - We belong to Jesus Christ

2. Authority - Because Jesus Christ is God, and He has died for us, we have authority in His name.