

Connected With One Another

Forgive One Another

Colossians 3:13

I. Message

a. Christians **MUST** forgive one another

i. Colossians 3:13 “Forbearing one another, **and forgiving one another...**”

ii. But what exactly is “forgiveness”?

1. Bible definition 1 - Covering another person’s offense

a. Psalm 32:1

b. Psalm 85:2

c. James 5:20

2. Bible definition 2 – Choosing to not remember an offense

a. Isaiah 43:25

b. Jeremiah 31:34

c. Hebrews 8:12

3. **Forgiveness: Agreeing to not use YOUR offense against YOU in the future in ANY way**

a. Never use it against you to you

b. Never use it against you to others

c. Never use it against you to God

d. Never use it against you even to myself!

i. When I forgive someone, the offense is gone

1. Psalm 103:12

2. This is what God does for us

3. This is what I am to do for others

4. Hebrews 10:16-18

5. Bible definition from Hebrews 10:16-18

a. **It is an agreement – v.16**

(covenant)

b. **It is not what is normally in our heart – v.16 (God’s law, not ours)**

c. **It is a choice not to remember a grievance or sin – v.17**

d. **It removes need for payment “no more offering” (covers the need) – v.18**

b. Christians MUST deal with quarrels

- i. "...if any man have a quarrel against any..."
- ii. When is it my responsibility to deal with a "quarrel"?
- iii. Pretty much whenever you are aware of one
 1. For a Christian to withhold forgiveness is a **sin**
 2. Unforgiveness is ungodly
 3. Peter's question – **Matthew 18:21-22, Matthew 6:14-15**
- iv. So, we MUST deal with quarrels
 1. Important note: they may or may not repent
 2. **Luke 17:3**
 3. **Mark 11:25**
- v. Whether they repent or not, you can still forgive! And you MUST!
 1. Joseph forgave his brothers with no repentance
 2. Stephen forgave his murderers with no repentance
 3. Jesus forgave His murderers with no repentance
 4. So, are there times a Christian MUST confront? **Proverbs 17:15**
 - a. A serious sin against someone other than you
 - i. Emphasized particularly in the OT
 - ii. **Jeremiah 22:3**
 - b. An obvious sin that may hurt the offender
 - i. **Galatians 6:1-2**
 - ii. Examples: Doctrinal error, moral failure, sinful habits, destructive tendencies, etc.
 - c. A bitter sin that is damaging to the body of Christ
 - i. **Hebrews 12:15**
 - ii. Confront it, speaking the truth in love!
 - d. A personal sin that is harming a relationship – **Matthew 5:23-24**

c. Christians MUST act like Christ

- i. The Supreme Example of forgiveness of course is Jesus
 1. **Luke 23:33-34**
 - a. He was the only one truly innocent
 - b. And yet He was busy forgiving, WHILE dying FOR His murderers
 - i. Think about it - That moment, the instant His

blood began to flow, the sins of mankind were finally being paid for!

1. The thief hanging next to Him was the first to take the offer
 2. The centurion standing by, did next – Matthew 27:54
 3. Luke 23:48 – the multitude, Acts 2:36
 4. And thousands have since
- c. Your sins and mine hung Him there, yet He forgave!
- d. So, why forgive one another? Christ forgives us**
- i. In fact, you are never You are never more like God/Christ, than when you forgive
 - ii. **Ephesians 4:32**
 1. If God can forgive us based on Jesus' pure blood
 2. I can forgive others

II. Conclusions: So, what are we to do with this?

- i. **You need to be forgiven by God. Are you?**
- ii. **You need to be forgiven by others. Are you seeking it?**
- iii. **You need to forgive others whether they repent or not**