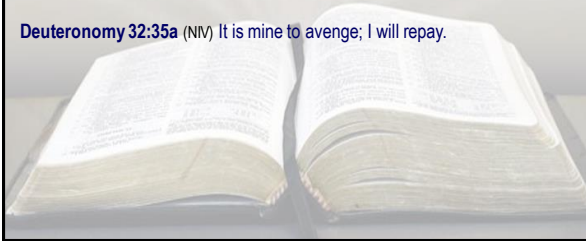


Some principles on Forgiveness:

1. Refusing to punish.

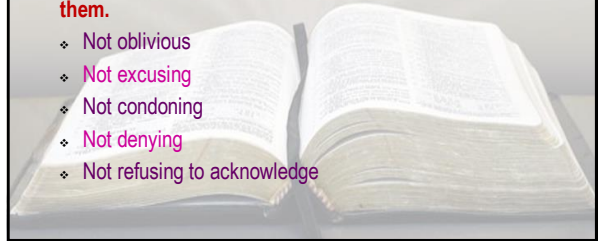
Deuteronomy 32:35a (NIV) It is mine to avenge; I will repay.



Some principles on Forgiveness:

2. Being aware of what someone has done and still forgiving them.

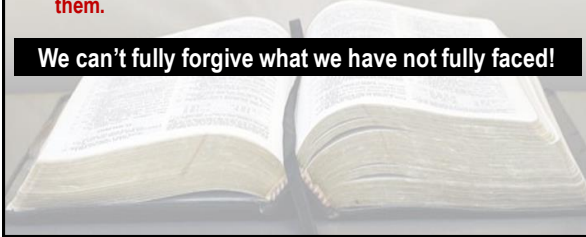
- ❖ Not oblivious
- ❖ Not excusing
- ❖ Not condoning
- ❖ Not denying
- ❖ Not refusing to acknowledge



Some principles on Forgiveness:

2. Being aware of what someone has done and still forgiving them.

We can't fully forgive what we have not fully faced!

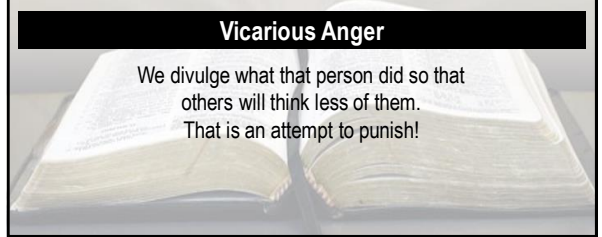


Some principles on Forgiveness:

3. Not telling what they did.

Vicarious Anger

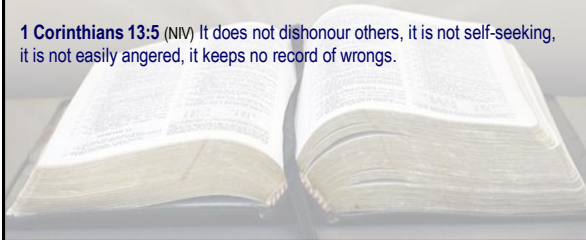
We divulge what that person did so that others will think less of them.
That is an attempt to punish!



Some principles on Forgiveness:

4. Keeping no record of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV) It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

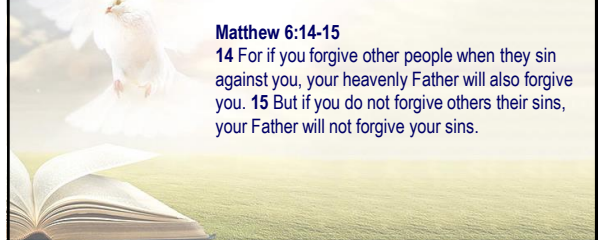


II. Why Forgive?

1. God's Command.

Matthew 6:14-15

14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **15** But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.



II. Why Forgive?

1. God's Command.

Matthew 5:43-48 God says "Be merciful as I am merciful." "Be perfect as I am perfect!"

45 "So that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven."

God is saying "Be Like Me!"

II. Why Forgive?

2. Not to give the devil a foothold.

Ephesians 4:27 (NIV) and do not give the devil a foothold.



Most of the ground that Satan gains in the lives of Christians is due to un-forgiveness.

- Neil Anderson,
out of his vast experience in working with oppressed Christians -

BBTC Disciple's Journey



II. Why Forgive?

3. For our good - because un-forgiveness.

A. Will hurt us **Psychologically**.

Lee Strobel says, "They don't hold a grudge as much as the grudge holds them."



II. Why Forgive?

3. For our good - because un-forgiveness.

B. Will hurt us **Physically**.

❖ Un-forgiveness has been linked to cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure and even cancer.

II. Why Forgive?

3. For our good - because un-forgiveness.

C: Will hurt our **relationship with others.**



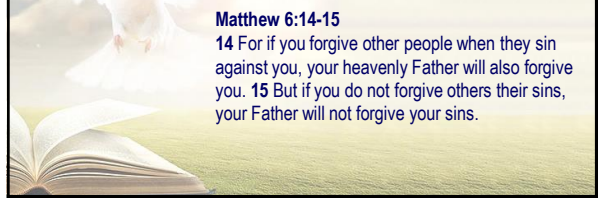
II. Why Forgive?

3. For our good - because un-forgiveness.

D: Will hurt our **fellowship with God.**

Matthew 6:14-15

14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **15** But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.



Which do you prefer:

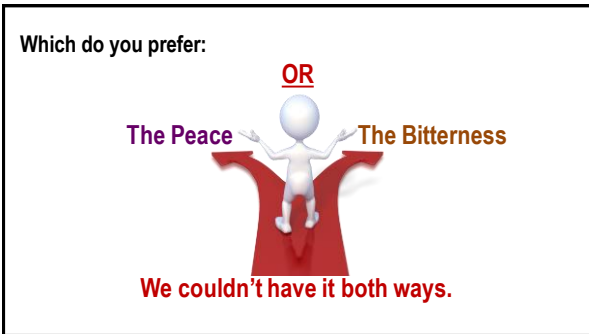
OR

The Peace

The Bitterness



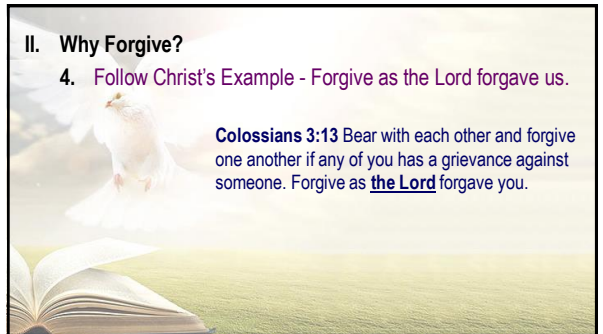
We couldn't have it both ways.

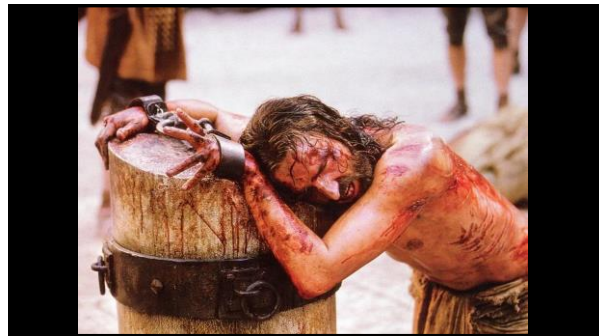
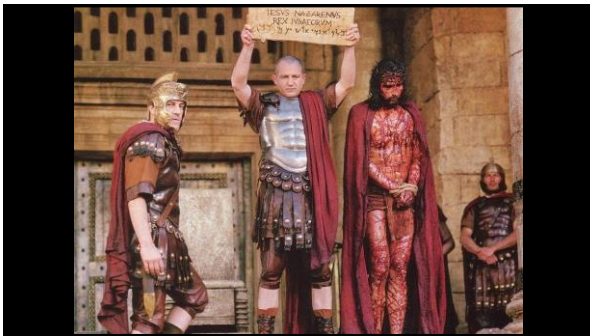
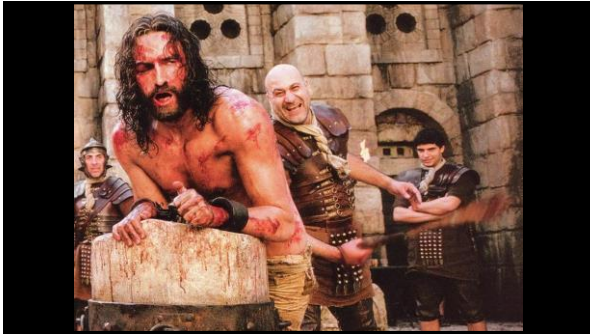


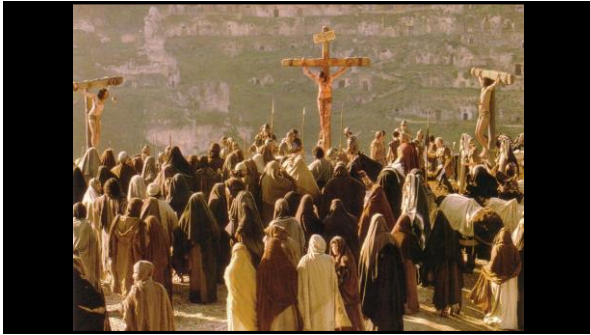
II. Why Forgive?

4. Follow Christ's Example - Forgive as the Lord forgave us.

Colossians 3:13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as **the Lord** forgave you.




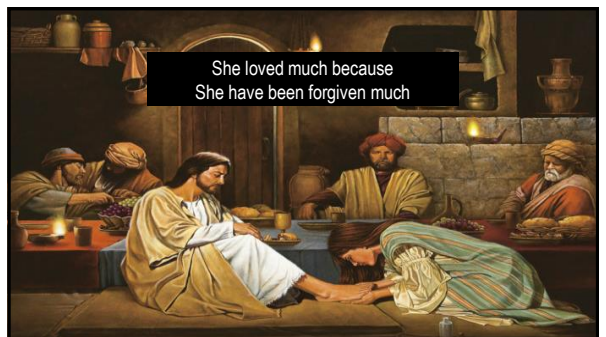
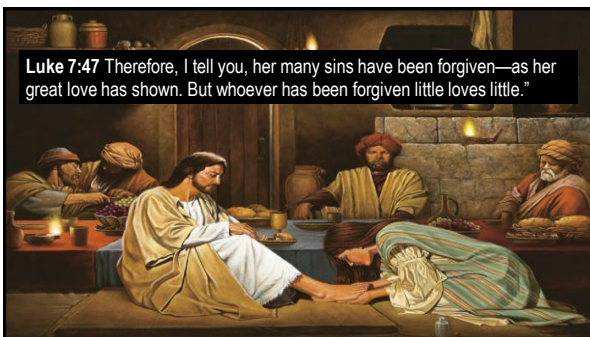




(2) **We see His Mercy.**

Matthew 18:21-35
The Parable of Forgiveness

10,000 Talents \$4,800,000,000		100 Denarii \$100
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(2) **We see His Mercy.**

We show mercy because
Jesus shown us His rich mercy!

III. How to forgive?

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

III. How to forgive?

1. Decide now.
Don't depend on our feelings alone obey.

III. How to forgive?

2. Depend on the Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 4:16-17

16 At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.

17 But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

III. How to forgive?

3. Devote in prayer.

Matthew 5:44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

III. How to forgive?

4. Do good - Acts of Kindness

Luke 6:27-28

27 But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, **28** bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.