**FORGIVENESS - CAN I LEARN TO FORGIVE?**

**Many of the notes from this lesson were from Brother Dave Olson who is on staff at Fairhaven Baptist Church.**

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ

sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32

1. What is forgiveness?

 A. To send \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our transgressions
 from us." Psalm 103:12

 B. To grant as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:36

 C. To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it from your memory or thoughts. Ephesians 4:32 (above)

2. How does God give forgiveness?

 A. He forgives us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just forgive

 us our sins, and to cleanse us from all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_..”

 B. God forgives us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. 1 John 1:9 (under point A)

 C. Be always ready to forgive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Psalm 86:5 “For thou, Lord, art good, and
 ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.”

 D. After forgiving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. “I even I am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for
 mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.” Isaiah 43:25

3. How do we forgive others?

 A. “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. 2 Cor. 2:10 Jesus helped them to forgive.

 B. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as God forgives or God won’t forgive you. Mark 11:25 We forgive

 through prayer. Pray for those who have wronged you.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ forgave people in prayer. Luke 23:34 "Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do..."
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ forgave people. 2 Timothy 4:16 "...I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge."
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Forgave others also. Acts 7:60 "Lord, lay not this sin to their

 charge..."

 C. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hebrews 10:17 Jesus said, "And their sins and iniquities will I

 remember no more."

 D. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Matthew 5:44 "...confirm your love toward him."

 E. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Romans 12:20 "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him: If he
 thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head."

 Joseph is a good example of this attitude.

4. Am I obligated to forgive someone who does not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and ask for
 forgiveness?

 A. A Dilemma: Luke 17:3-4 "Take heed yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee,

 Rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven
 times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee saying, I repent thou shalt

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him.

 B. What is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? Romans 12:20 "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed

 him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his

 head.

 Jesus told us in Luke 23:34 "...Father, forgive them; for they know not what they
 do..."

5. How long should I keep forgiving someone for the same offense? "...Jesus saith unto

 him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but Until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ times \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

 Mt. 18:21-22.

6. What if we do not forgive someone?

 A. It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Mark 11:25 "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have

 aught against any....

 B. It brings God's judgment against you if you will not forgive others. Mark 11:25-26
 "...that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But, if
 ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your
 trespasses."

 C. There is no excuse for not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. 2 Cor. 2:10-11

 D. Not forgiving causes other sins to manifest themselves in you

(1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hebrews 12:14-15

(2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Romans 12:19

 E. It brings God's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ upon you. Matthew 18:32-35

7. What \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are there for the forgiver

 A. Forgiveness causes a person to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Luke 7:47

 B. Forgiveness brings \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the person. Rom. 4:7

 C. Forgiveness brings \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the forgiver. 2 Corin. 2:6-8

 D. Forgiveness has a tendency to give you better \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.