

Sons and Daughters of Forgiveness

1 Corinthians 13:4-6

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Part of Reset

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Ephesians 4:29-32 – 29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

James 1:19-21 – 19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Colossians 3:12-14 – 12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Implications:

FORGIVENESS implies CONNECTION.

FORGIVENESS comes through SPIRITUAL MATURITY.

A lack of FORGIVENESS is EASY.

FORGIVENESS is EVANGELISTIC.

Do you rehearse hurt?

Do you feel different when a name comes up?

Do you keep telling the story?

Do you have a balance sheet in your head?

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 – 4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Taking Steps:

Forgiveness is not OPTIONAL.

Forgiveness names the HURT.

Forgiveness releases the DEBT.

Forgiveness opens the DOOR.

Am I WILLING to be a SON or DAUGHTER of FORGIVENESS?

Small Group Questions:

Who is the most forgiving person you know? What makes them forgiving?

How would you explain the difference between forgiveness and ignoring a situation or person?

Is forgiveness easy? When does forgiveness become easier?

How does forgiveness become evangelistic? How does forgiveness become a source of unity in the church?

Does Jesus really expect us to forgive?