

THE RELATIONSHIP CHOICE

The Choices that Change Us: Part 6

July 23, 2017

Pastor Matt

“Happy are those who are merciful to others...” (Matthew 5:7; GNT)

“Happy are those who work for peace...” (Matthew 5:9; GNT)

RELATIONSHIPS TAKE W.O.R.K.

In order, to repair a broken relationship(s), I must...

WALK IN SURRENDER.

“Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.’” (Matthew 16:24; ESV)

“O my son, give me your heart. May your eyes take delight in following my ways.” (Proverbs 23:26; NLT)

OFFER FORGIVENESS.

Why should you forgive others?

- 1) Because God has FORGIVEN you.

“Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4:32; NLT)

- 2) Because RESENTMENT doesn't work.

“You are only hurting yourself with your anger.” (Job 18:4; GNT)

- 3) Because you will need forgiveness in the FUTURE.

“But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.” (Mark 11:25; NLT)

How do I forgive others?

- 1) *Revealing Your Hurt.*
- 2) *Releasing the Offender.*
- 3) *Replacing Your Hurt with God's Peace*

RCONCILE THE RELATIONSHIP.

“And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.” (2 Corinthians 5:18; NLT)

5 Things to consider when Reconciling a relationship:

- 1) Reconcile PRIVATELY; not Publicly.
- 2) Reconcile the relationship with HUMILITY.
- 3) Reconcile expecting NOTHING in return
- 4) Reconcile with DISCERNMENT.
- 5) Reconcile through RESTITUTION.

“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” (Romans 12:18; NIV)

KEEP RUNNING TO JESUS.

“By His divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life.” (2 Peter 1:3; NLT)

“Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28; NLT)

LAST THOUGHT

I will never know how to forgive,
Until I know what it's like to be
FORGIVEN.