

Real Talk: Forgiveness

*"Bear with each other and forgive one another...
Forgive as the Lord forgave you."
Colossians 3:13 (NIV)*

*"For if you forgive others their trespasses,
your heavenly Father will also forgive you,
but if you do not forgive others their trespasses,
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."
Matthew 6:14-15 (ESV)*

Forgiveness:

1. REFLECTS GOD'S CHARACTER.

*"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."
Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)*

2. RESTORES RELATIONSHIPS.

*"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in Heaven may forgive you your sins."
Mark 11:25 (NIV)*

3. BRINGS HEALING AND FREEDOM.

*"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us... and... cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
1 John 1:9 (ESV)*

WHEN SOMEONE HURTS YOU... (LUKE 6:27-36)

- Forgive them
- Do good to them
- Pray for them
- Possibly confront them

WHEN YOU HURT SOMEONE... (MATTHEW 5:23-24)

- Confess and ask God's forgiveness
- Accept responsibility without blaming
- Confess and ask the person's forgiveness -
"I'm sorry I was wrong for _____"
- Possibly make restitution