

Let The Games Begin
The Blame Game
Discover Church
Mark Phillips
May 28, 2023

The win in a relationship is the relationship.

Blame Game = **Assigning** responsibility of something **bad** to someone or something else

Truths About the Blame Game

- We blame because it is a way for us to **alleviate** our **pain**.
- Blame doesn't actually **solve** anything or **bring** change in us or others
- The Result of the Blame Game = People **Get Stuck**
- We blame the **most** when we get **hurt** the **most**.

“Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no basis for a charge against this man.”⁵ But they insisted, “He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here.”⁶ On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean.⁷ When he learned that Jesus was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.⁸ When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see him. From what he had heard about him, he hoped to see him perform a sign of some sort.⁹ He plied him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer.¹⁰ The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing him.¹¹ Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate.¹² That day Herod and Pilate became friends—before this they had been enemies.¹³ Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people,¹⁴ and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him.¹⁵ Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death.¹⁶ Therefore, I will punish him and then release him.”¹⁸ But the whole crowd shouted, “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!”¹⁹ (Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.)²⁰ Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again.²¹ But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”²² For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him.”²³ But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed.²⁴ So Pilate decided to grant their demand.²⁵ He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will...³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” Luke 23:4-25 & 32-34

- Jesus offered **Forgiveness**

“Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” Luke 23:34

Overcoming the Blame Game

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

1. We have an **option** to the Blame Game
2. Even in your deepest **pain**, you don't have to **blame**
3. We don't have to **fault** someone even when it is their **fault**
4. Forgiveness doesn't start with an “**IF**”
5. Invite the **Father** into the process

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Blame Game = _____ responsibility of something _____ to someone or something else

Truths About the Blame Game

- *We blame because it is a way for us to _____ our _____*
- *Blame doesn't actually _____ anything or _____ change in us or others*
- *The Result of the Blame Game = People _____*
- *We blame the _____ when we get _____ the _____*
- *Jesus offered _____*

Overcoming the Blame Game

1. We have an _____ to the Blame Game
2. Even in your deepest _____, you don't have to _____
3. We don't have to _____ someone even when it is their _____
4. Forgiveness doesn't start with an "____"
5. Invite the _____ into the process

Scripture: *Luke 23:4-25 & 32-34; Colossians 3:13*