

Christlike Forgiveness

Theme: The Christian life is marked by radical forgiveness towards fellow sinners

God's Way is Best

Scene 1 – David trusts God and is made king of Israel (1-11)

Scene 2 – Abner rejects God and incites a civil war (12-32)

Joab pursues human vengeance (26-27)

Four Actions that Characterizes the unforgiving

1. They Lie to Justify their Sin
2. They Commit Premeditated Murder

Matthew 5:21-24

²¹ “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’ ²² “But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell. ²³ “Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

Joab pursues human vengeance (26-27)

Four Actions that Characterizes the unforgiving

1. They Lie to Justify their Sin
2. They Commit Premeditated Murder
3. They Act Deceitfully

Proverbs 24:28

²⁸ Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause, And do not deceive with your lips.

Joab pursues human vengeance (26-27)

Four Actions that Characterizes the unforgiving

1. They Lie to Justify their Sin
2. They Commit Premeditated Murder
3. They Act Deceitfully
4. They Seek Unbiblical Vengeance

Leviticus 19:18

¹⁸ ‘You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the Lord.

Romans 13:4b

⁴ But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

Matthew 18:21-35

The unforgiving Slave

Ephesians 4:32 (Emphasis Added)

³² Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, JUST AS GOD IN CHRIST ALSO HAS FORGIVEN YOU.

David pronounces judgement (28-30)

Four Actions that Characterizes the Forgiving

1. They are appalled by a lack of forgiveness
2. They rebuke the unforgiving

David's lament (31-39)

Four Actions that Characterizes the Forgiving

1. They are appalled by a lack of forgiveness
2. They rebuke the unforgiving
3. They mourn the consequences of sin

Proverbs 24:17

¹⁷ Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles;

David's lament (31-39)

Four Actions that Characterizes the Forgiving

1. They are appalled by a lack of forgiveness
2. They rebuke the unforgiving
3. They mourn the consequences of sin
4. They practice complete, radical forgiveness

Why Practice Such a Radical Forgiveness:

- 0 – When necessary, pursue legal consequence for abuse (even while letting go of malice, hurt, and hatred)
- 1 – It Draws the lost to God
- 2 – Failing to do so damages our testimony