

MATTHEW 18:15-35 NLT

JAMES 3:2 BSB

We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.

Bitterness results from the hurts we can't get past.

HEBREWS 12:15

See to it that no one ***misses the grace of God*** and that no ***bitter root*** grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

BREAKING FREE... KILLING THE ROOT

1. RECOGNIZE YOUR _____ AS SIN.

PSALM 139:23-24 NLT

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ***See if there is any offensive way in me,*** and lead me in the way everlasting.

2. DO WHAT YOU CAN TO _____.

MATTHEW 18:15 NIV

If ***your brother*** sins against you, ***go and show him his fault, just between the two of you.*** If he listens to you, ***you have won your brother over.***

3. CHOOSE _____ AS A REFLECTION OF HIS GRACE.

EPHESIANS 4:32 NLT

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, ***just as God through Christ has forgiven you.***

Forgiveness is not the same as reconciliation.

- **SEPARATES ... lets them out of prison.**

PSALM 103:12 NIV

As far as the east is from the west so far has **He removed our transgressions from us.**

- **FORGETS ... doesn't bring it up**

ISAIAH 43:25 NIV

I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, **and remembers your sins no more.**

- **CLEANSSES ... only God can do this, but we can cancel debt.**

1 JOHN 1:9 NIV

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and **purify us from all unrighteousness.**

- **SPEAKS IT OUT**

ROMANS 10:10 NIV

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is **with your mouth that you confess and are saved.**

- **ABUNDANTLY PARDONS**

ISAIAH 55:7 NKJV

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, and **He will have mercy on him;** And to our God, **for He will abundantly pardon.**

ISAIAH 55:7 NLT

...**forgive generously**...

ISAIAH 55:7 MSG

...**lavish with forgiveness**...

MATTHEW 18:35 NIV

...**forgive** your brothers and sisters **from your heart.**