

Application & Conclusion:

Jesus calls us to forgive each other for freedom's sake. Jesus' radical kind of forgiveness that He prescribes is guaranteed to bring a radical kind of freedom. It sets both the offender free and the offended free. They are free to love. Free to serve one another. Free to move forward together at peace.

They insulted you. They spoke to you the wrong way. They threw you under the bus. They caused you heartache. How much more have we offended God? How much greater is His forgiveness toward all who repent?

Freedom and reconciliation are on the other side of forgiveness and kindness toward one another. As Paul the Apostle urges us, "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:31-32).

Reflection Questions:

1. What does this teach me about God?

2. What does this teach me about me?

3. How do I apply this to my life?

