

# Unforgiveness In Daily Life

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***“I don’t think I ever got over it. . . I hated him. . . I hated myself. . . I still haven’t forgiven him. . . I don’t think I ever could . . .”***

*An offense against us which alters the way we see ourselves may end in a lower standard and a lack of acceptance of who and what we are in God’s eyes. Self hatred can easily be entertained and then we are likely to live a lower standard of personal life that will issue forth in personal destruction.*

*When the act of forgiveness is not given to those who offend us -- then anger, bitterness, and self-destruction begin. The hate we carry for another will always begin to destroy us before it begins to affect the offender.*

*For many this hatred began when young. It started as the result of verbal, physical or sexual abuse from others, a broken home, hatred and anger in the home, or anyone of a multitude of things.*

## **A. The Bible tells us that to forgive is to**

1. pardon (Isa. 55:7)
2. to blot out, (Isa. 43:25; and to
3. keep no record of the wrong. (Jere. 31:34)

*therefore, **our unforgiveness shows:***

1. no pardon,
2. no “blotting out,” and
3. but instead a willfulness to keep a record of wrong.

## **B. Unforgiveness can be seen in four ways:**

1. **David gave “in part” forgiveness:** II Samuel 13:39; and 14:23-24

King David could forgive his son from afar, but refused to take him back into fellowship. Until an appeal was made to King David concerning his lack of full forgiveness and the consequences, his own son (Absalom) might have to pay for David’s “*in part*” forgiveness. Maybe at this time you might seek the Lord and ask Him to clearly reveal areas in which you have given “*in part*” forgiveness in your life. Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. **Solomon gave “trial forgiveness” when he said that Adonijah had to pass a test before full forgiveness could be given.** (I Kings 1:51-53)

a. Is there someone in your situation that *had to pass a test* before you would give full forgiveness? \_\_\_\_\_

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b. What test would have to be passed in order for you to give full forgiveness? \_\_\_\_\_

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**3. Shimei tested the throne of David, trying to dishonor him.**

(Read II Samuel 16:5-13; 19:18-20; I Kings. 2:8-9; 2:36-37, 44)  
When David confronted Shimei, Shimei humbled himself before David, and asked for forgiveness. David granted forgiveness, ***“yet with limitations.”*** Those limitations were passed on to Solomon (David’s son) to carry out after David’s death. Shimei tested those limitations three years after the agreement of forgiveness with limitations was given. Shimei was executed. This forgiveness with limitations put not only David, but also his son, in a bondage to fulfill his father’s wishes.

Have you extended forgiveness, but with limitations? What were they?

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**4. *“Procrastinating forgiveness”* is when one says, *“I’ll forgive, but later: I’m not ready to forgive right now.” “I’ll never be able to forgive;” “I’m waiting for conviction;” “I need to work through my feelings first.”***

Read Genesis 32:18, 33:4. Jacob had stolen the birthright from his brother Esau by deceiving their father. Twenty years went by with no forgiveness and no fellowship. Jacob could have gone to his brother, Esau, at any time within that 20 year period and humbly asked for forgiveness, but his pride and his fear kept him from asking forgiveness.

a. Are you allowing pride or fear to keep you from full forgiveness? \_\_\_\_\_

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b. What will ***take root*** in your life if you choose not to forgive? \_\_\_\_\_

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**C. Christ Came to Be the Forgiver, to Die That We Might Know Forgiveness!**

Because of Christ’s completed work (birth, ministry, death, and resurrection), we have a second chance. Through Christ’s death on the cross, our sin was paid for, therefore, our forgiveness was purchased for us. Simply, yet, with all sincerity, we must receive Christ as our Lord and Savior to receive forgiveness from our sins.

**Forgiveness is an act of pardon based on:**

Hebrews 9:22 \_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 1:14 \_\_\_\_\_

II Corinthians 5:21 \_\_\_\_\_

I Peter 2:24 \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 7:42 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 86:5 \_\_\_\_\_

**Read Matthew 18:21-35**

1. Does Christ encourage us, ask us, or command us to forgive? \_\_\_\_\_
2. When we fully forgive as Christ commanded us to do, what are we promised by Christ Himself? (Matt. 6:14) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does Psalm 139:23-24 tell us? \_\_\_\_\_

***Are you willing to allow God to search your heart about unforgiveness?***

## **The Problem of Anger**

### **What a man said about anger!**

*“I am sure you still have anger for what I did. . . . that is good because that crime deserves anger. . . it should never have happened. . . I am called a perpetrator, for that is what I am!*

*I went beyond where others would have stopped. I assaulted my oldest daughter who was fourteen at the time. I committed the crime of incest. I abused the natural trust that family members have for each other, especially the trust that children have for their parents.*

*This father goes on to say how he came to this point of confession and healing only after his daughter had revealed his offense to a counselor. He confessed how this act nearly destroyed his family and how thankful he is that God exposed this sin, so that he and his family might be spared destruction. In the following quote, he shares his heart with his precious daughter whom he offended.*

*I have to tell you that I am sorry beyond measure that I degraded you, that I made you feel less than human, that I used you as a thing to make me feel good, not caring that you may have feelings or that you might be hurting. I’m sure that you still have anger for what I did. That is good because that crime deserves anger: it should never have happened.”*

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**Anger is defined as “instinctive resentment or reaction of soul against anything which it regards as wrong or injurious.”**

**A. “Be ye angry and sin not.”** is what we are taught in Ephesians 4:26. Many of us believe that anger in itself is wrong, yet Christ Himself became angry at times.

God the Father also has revealed His anger; so what does it mean to be angry and sin not? \_\_\_\_\_

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### **B. Reading Mark three:**

1. What was Christ angry about and what did He do about it?
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2. Have you ever been angered at man’s inhumanity to man? \_\_\_\_\_

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**C. Read Mark eleven:** In the temple in Jerusalem Jesus became angry that His Father's house had been turned into a market place and its sacredness had been abused.

1. How did Jesus show authority in cleansing the temple of this impurity?

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2. Look up I Cor. 3:16-17; I Cor. 6:19. To what does Christ compare our bodies?

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3. Do you believe that God is angered when we are abused or abuse others?

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**D. The Bible gives us a number of examples concerning justifiable anger and unjustifiable anger:**

1. Read Exodus 32. How as Moses (whom God called the meekest man who ever live) justified in this anger? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Compare this to Genesis 4:1-15. How was Cain unjustified in his anger?

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*In Genesis 29:14-- 31:55, Jacob became angry at Laban for his continued selfishness and manipulation. Did he sin in reaction? \_\_\_\_\_*

*Haman in the book of Esther was hanged because he sinned out of his anger. He had a heart of vengeance, pride, desired to control, and manifested much self-righteousness.*

3. What are some ways we can confront problems in our lives with wisdom? Read Psalm 37:3-8: vs. 3 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 4 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 5 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 6 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 7 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 8 \_\_\_\_\_

*Both Cain and Haman allowed anger to control them; they reacted in sin and suffered tremendous consequences because of their lack of wisdom, and godly control.*

*Neither Moses or Jacob sinned out of their anger (in texts above); yet they confronted the problem and the offenders with wisdom.*

4. Take a moment, ask God to show you your anger through His eyes!
  - a. Is your heart one of vengeance, pride, control of others, and self-righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Are you allowing the Lord to reveal your anger? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Have you taken responsibility and acted in godly wisdom in your personal situation? \_\_\_\_\_

**E. If you are still holding on to unrepentant, unjustifiable anger,** you may be dealing with sin issues that the Lord needs to address. Those issues are pride, control of others or of your situation, self-righteousness, and vengeance. What does God say about these issues:

1. Pride:  
Proverbs 16:18 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Self-righteousness:  
Proverbs 26:12 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Control:  
Proverbs 3:5-6 \_\_\_\_\_  
Psalm 37:4-5 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Vengeance:  
Romans 12:19 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Hate and anger:  
Ephesians 4:26-27 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Giving God *your rights*: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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*Unconfessed and unrepentant anger begins to destroy us from the inside out. It shows in our eyes, on our face, in our lives, and it reflects in our families. What freedom we have when we allow God to take our anger and trust in Him and not in man!*

***Pray now for His peace, healing, and forgiveness...."And sin not!"***