

# Do you forgive?

I want you to think about the people you are angry with right now. The people whom have wronged you, slighted you, abandoned you, and ignored you. How do those people make you feel? Have you forgiven them of the wrongs they committed in your life? Forgiveness is no easy task, but it's level of difficulty does not preclude its necessity!

Forgiveness is not conceding that they were right. It's not saying what they did was acceptable. It's not even saying their actions are forgotten! It absolutely does not mean you cannot talk to them about the way their actions affected you. It's simply saying that their actions will no longer dictate your actions moving forward. Each of us deserves to be forgiven by each other, even if it at times feels like we shouldn't. Why is that?

Christ has forgiven you, in all your inequities, He has made you new. You're new because you are no longer associated with the old you. You are no longer held accountable for the things you have done. The slate has been wiped clean. How can we expect those that have wronged us to ever change if we keep them shrouded in their inequities? If we constantly persecute them for something in the past? Our flesh desires us to hold on until they come crawling back in apology, this is unacceptable behavior from a proclaimed Christian!

Let's look at Colossians:

*“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are*

*called in one body; and be ye thankful.”*

☐☐Colossians☐ ☐3:12-15☐ ☐KJV☐☐

We are one body. When we hold on to the anger of the past, we are introducing poison into the body of Christ. Forgive and allow God to work in your life. Don't build walls that prevent you from walking with Christ.

Finally, be thankful. Be thankful that Christ has forgiven you of all your shortcomings, that you are not accountable for your past in the eyes of God. Extend that to those around you, be those hands and feet of Jesus we are called to be.

God Bless