



The Way of Reconciliation

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”

Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV)

Explore me, O God, and know the real me. Dig deeply and discover who I am.

Put me to the test and watch how I handle the strain.

*Examine me to see if there is an evil bone in me,
and guide me down Your path forever.*

Psalms 139:23-24 (VOICE)

The Danger of Holding onto Offense:

- You are _____ by the offender.
- You are _____ by the offender.
- You _____ what Jesus came to do and calls you to.

It is central to our good news that God was in the Anointed making things right between Himself and the world. This means He does not hold their sins against them. But it also means He charges us to proclaim the message that heals and restores our broken relationships with God and each other.

2 Corinthians 5:19 (VOICE)

- You _____ off from spiritual and emotional growth.

The Way of Jesus:

- _____ it out. (Go to the place where transformation is possible.)

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James 5:16 (NIV)

- _____ your step. (Within your power.)

If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people.

Romans 12:18 (CEB)

If it is within your power, make peace with all people.

Romans 12:18 (VOICE)

- Choose to _____. (The debt one is owed.)
- Choose to _____. (Align one's emotions and behaviors with that choice.)

Discussion Questions

1. What are ways you have seen unforgiveness stand in the way of your spiritual or emotional growth?
2. When was a time forgiveness or reconciliation helped you live lighter and freer?
3. Who is someone you can (1) forgive or (2), reach out to reconcile with today?

Recommended Resources

- *Forgiving What You Can't Forget*, by Lysa Terkeurst
- *Does Unforgiveness Hinder Prayers?* YouTube with Greg Laurie
- *The Healing Strategy*, YouTube sermon by Jud Wilhite
- *You'll Be Glad You Did: Forgive*, YouTube sermon by April Farmer

(NIV) New International Version

(VOICE) The Voice

(CEB) Common English Bible

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and guide me down Your path forever.*

Psalms 139:23-24 (VOICE)

The Danger of Holding onto Offense:

- You are CONSUMED by the offender.
- You are CONTROLLED by the offender.
- You CONTRADICT what Jesus came to do and calls you to.

It is central to our good news that God was in the Anointed making things right between Himself and the world. This means He does not hold their sins against them. But it also means He charges us to proclaim the message that heals and restores our broken relationships with God and each other.

2 Corinthians 5:19 (VOICE)

- You CLOSE off from spiritual and emotional growth.

The Way of Jesus:

- TALK it out. (Go to the place where transformation is possible.)

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James 5:16 (NIV)

- TAKE your step. (Within your power.)

If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people.

Romans 12:18 (CEB)

If it is within your power, make peace with all people.

Romans 12:18 (VOICE)

- Choose to CANCEL. (The debt one is owed.)
- Choose to CONTINUE. (Align one's emotions and behaviors with that choice.)

Discussion Questions

1. What are ways you have seen unforgiveness stand in the way of your spiritual or emotional growth?
2. When was a time forgiveness or reconciliation helped you live lighter and freer?
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