
OVERCOMING UNFORGIVENESS

ELLIOTTSTVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

MAY 15, 2011

Reading: Matthew 18:15-35

Discussion

I. Necessity of Forgiving One Another

- A. Have I really forgiven my offender?
- B. Forgiving One Another
 - 1. It is a command. **Mark 11:25 ; John 14:15**
 - 2. Consider the example of Jesus Christ. **Luke 23:34 ; Philippians 2:5**
 - 3. Consider the example of the early Church. **Acts 7:60**
 - 4. Love calls for forgiveness. **1 Corinthians 13:4**
 - 5. We forgive because we have been forgiven. **James 2:14; Matthew 18**
 - 6. Forgiveness is required if you want a walk with God. **I John 1:7**

II. Wrong Attitudes Toward Forgiveness

- A. "I cannot forgive." **James 2:10**
- B. "I am going to forgive you but in the future I am not going to have anything to do with you."
Colossians 3:13; Ephesians 4:32
- C. "It is a favor from me to you." **I Cor. 2:12**
- D. "I am going to forgive you, but I'll never forget it." **Heb 8:12**

III. Cultivating Forgiveness

- A. The hatred, ill will, and bitterness does more harm to the hater than it does the person he hates.
- B. Ask for assistance.
- C. Remember Jesus' example in "The Lord's Prayer"
- D. Forgive continuously.