



The Art of Forgiving

Matthew 5:5-15



Something to Ponder

- Are you a grudge holder or a mercy giver?
- Do you harbor bitterness or sow the fruit of God's love?
- Are you bound up by resentment or are you set free by God's peace?

Forgiving Isn't Easy

- Forgiving is never easy
- Our nature is to get even
- It is only by the grace of God that any of us can forgive
- It cost Jesus Christ his life for us to receive God's forgiveness
- What does it cost us to forgive?



Some Observations

- When we come to the topic of forgiveness, we are at the heart of the gospel message
- Forgiveness is not some warm fuzzy feeling
- Forgiveness means giving up your right to get even
- Forgiveness means being willing to clear the one the wronged you

The “As” Word

- “Forgive us our sins AS we forgive those who have sinned against us
- If we really and truly understand the depth of our sin and God’s amazing love and grace as He forgives us, then we cannot help but show that same kind of grace and mercy toward others



The Art of Forgiving

- If we want to be forgiven a lot, then we must be willing to forgive a lot
- Releasing someone and setting them free means that we will experience God's release and freedom in our lives.