

Devotional: A Story Of Forgiveness

Christian Devotional on Forgiveness

Read: Philemon 4-21 (NKJV)

This is a wonderful story of God's forgiveness and restoration and the need to forgive others who have wronged us. We all have times in our lives when we need to forgive and be forgiven. As long as we live in our human flesh, we will be hurt and hurt others—and sometimes we may not even realize we have hurt someone else.

I believe that forgiveness is the key to healing. It is the start point in the healing process. We can never know true inner peace until we have forgiven. I know it's not easy. We may feel completely justified in holding onto an unforgiving attitude. But the problem with that is bitterness gets in and takes root. We continually think about it, reliving it over and over, but it needn't be that way. It's only destroying us and taking away our joy and peace in life.

Philemon needed to forgive Onesimus for stealing from him. Paul mentions in verses 15-16, to receive him back, not as a slave, but as a brother. We should too. We need to choose to forgive. Place it at the foot of the cross and leave it there. It's then we know God's peace and love filling us. We will sense a heavy burden being lifted from us, because not forgiving is a heavy load to bear.

If you feel you have an unforgiving spirit or hold resentment in your heart, will you give it up to the Lord today? He loves you and truly understands what you have been through. The start point to truly being free is to forgive.

Be gentle and forbearing with one another and, if one has a difference (a grievance or complaint) against another, readily pardoning each other; even as the Lord has [freely] forgiven you, so must you also [forgive]. – Colossians 3:13 (AMPC)

You know what I have been through, Lord,
What others did to me
I know I need to forgive them, Lord,
To truly be set free.

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Devotional: An Attitude Of Forgiveness

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