

Spiritual Warfare: Freedom from Demonic Bondage

Teaching Notes for Part 8: Forgiveness

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1Jn 1:9 MKJV If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Mat 18:21-22 MKJV Then Peter came to Him and said, Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Until seven times? (22) Jesus said to him, I do not say to you, Until seven times; but, Until seventy times seven.

I. Introduction:

Inner Healing, Deliverance, tearing down strongholds (spiritual growth) all go together. All are necessary for freedom.

If we get demons cast out but we do not get our soul wounds healed then the poison inside of those wounds like anger and bitterness will surely open the door up to those demons to come back in.

If we get healed from soul wounds but don't cast the demons out they will surely cause the negative emotions like pain and bitterness to take root in our heart again causing woundedness.

Learning truth is what breaks the chains of deception of us. It is the deception that holds us in bondage. For example believing that God does not care will hold us in bondage. We will not have the faith to go to him for healing or deliverance.

II. Why we Must Forgive:

1. God commands us to forgive

Col 3:12-14 ESV Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, (13) bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (14) And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

2. We will not be forgiven if we do not forgive

And when you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive it so that also your Father in Heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in Heaven forgive your trespasses. (Mark 11:25-26 MKJV)

3. It gives demons legal rights to torment us because it is the willful acceptance of sins thereby the will acceptance of demons.
4. Unforgiveness is sin and it causes more sin like bitterness, resentment, anger, hatred, unkindness, even murder.
5. If we refuse to forgive, tormenters will be loosed on us.

Matthew 18: 23-35 (23) Therefore the kingdom of Heaven has been compared to a certain king who desired to make an accounting with his servants. (24) And when he had begun to count, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. (25) But as he had nothing to pay, his lord commanded that he, and his wife and children, and all that he had, be sold, and payment be made. (26) Then the servant fell down and worshiped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me and I will pay you all. (27) Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion and released him and forgave him the debt. (28) But the same servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. And he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me what you owe. (29) And his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, Have patience with me and I will pay you all. (30) And he would not, but went and cast him into prison until he should pay the debt. (31) So when his fellow servants saw what was done, they were very sorry. And they came and told their lord all that was done. (32) Then his lord, after he had called him, said to him, O wicked servant, I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. (33) Should you not also have pitied your fellow servant, even as I had pity on you? (34) And his lord was angry, and delivered him to the tormentors until he should pay all that was due to him. (35) So likewise shall My heavenly Father do also to you, unless each one of you from your hearts forgive his brother their trespasses.

6. It is poison to our soul. It hurts us much more than the person we are holding it toward.
7. Unforgiveness chains us to the offender and the offense! It keeps us from being able to be healed and move on.

IV. How do we forgive?

1. **Choose** to forgive by faith. Make a firm decision to forgive!
 - People probably will not deserve our forgiveness, but we did not deserve God's grace and mercy either.
2. In prayer give this person and the offence to God.
 - When we forgive we release everything to God, all the hurt and pain, the confusion, all the emotions of that hurt.
 - We release that person to God asking God to heal their life.
3. Expect no restitution from the ones hurting you, not even an apology.
 - When we forgive, that person no longer owes us anything. No apology, no restitution, not even to understanding how they hurt us.
 - We look to God only for restitution.
4. Pray for yourself. Ask God to heal your heart. Seek God for complete inner healing.
 - We ask God to forgive us for any part we played in that situation.
 - We forgive ourselves and release ourselves to God for His care.
5. Stand on the decision to forgive regardless of your feelings.
6. Resist the enemy's temptations to harbor ill feelings.
 - When thoughts and feeling come up, say no I have forgiven him.
 - Talk to the Lord about it, reaffirm your decision.
7. Once we forgive seek to forget. Don't talk about it, **don't rehearse** it in your mind.
8. You may need to break soul ties. (soul tie breaking prayer)
9. Time does help.

III. **Some misconceptions about forgiveness**

1. If we do not feel the forgiveness, it has not occurred.

- Forgiveness is an act of obedience and faith, not a feeling.
 - It takes time to feel it.
2. If you forgive, it is like saying they were right or they did not wrong to you.
 3. If you forgive, there will be no justice.

Rom 12:18-19 MKJV If it is possible, as far as is in you, being in peace with all men. (19) not avenging yourselves, beloved, but giving place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

4. If I forgive them, I have to trust them.
5. If I forgive them, it means that I have to continue to be friends or spend time with this person.
6. If wrong thoughts come into your mind concerning the person, you have not forgiven.

v. God's Love is so important

Know that God loves you and is on your side. Know how gracious and kind he is makes the difference.

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and tumult and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:31-32 MKJV)

Exercise in Forgiveness of Others

Write:

Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind every person that has ever hurt you or someone you love and write down their name. You can release forgiveness to each person individually or collectively as the Lord leads you.

Prayer Example:

Lord I bring each of these people that have hurt me before your throne of grace and I ask you to forgive each of them for the hurt and the harm that they have brought into my life. He/She/They may not deserve forgiveness but neither have I for the wrong that I have done and you have always most graciously forgiven all my sins. Lord, I ask you to forgive me of any wrongs I have committed against these people as well.

They/he/she cannot repay the hurt they have cause me and my loved ones and I don't expect them to. They owe me nothing, not even an apology. I know you love me and you will fully make restitution. I look to you to heal my heart and return to me everything that was stolen from me. I know you will make all things right and all things better than they ever were before because you turn those things meant for my harm into good. I ask you to take my pain, heal it and use it to benefit both me, others and your kingdom in Jesus name I ask and receive by faith in the blood of Jesus.

Lord I place them/him/her into your hands and I will leave them/him/her there with your help. I ask you to heal their/his/her life, bring them into your kingdom and help them live a life that pleases you. I also forgive myself for all things concerning this issue as I know I am clean in your sight.

Father I have forgiven them/him/her as an act of obedience and faith in you. I may not feel that forgiveness but I know it is done. I resist all of the enemy's lies that would condemn me in this area.

I ask you to completely heal my heart and fill my heart with love. Help me to feel nothing but your heart for these people and until I feel the forgiveness, I stand on my act of obedience and your acceptance of it and I resist any temptation to be angry or bitter. Any time I feel such things I will remind the enemy of this moment and I will confirm to myself and you of my decision to forgive. Thank you Lord for your love and acceptance of me.

In Jesus Name I pray, Amen