

Sermon series: The Final Countdown [Is a Gospel Marriage Different from a Christian one?]

Text: Colossians 3:13

Description: Repeatedly forgiving others can happily be the believer's life of the believer towards others because he/she has been forgiven by God of so much.

Delivered: October 31, 2021

## ~~Wives:~~ Only Christ's Forgiveness can Slay your Indignation

*Turn of the Cheek* (Amazon Prime)

- Forgive = I no longer hold anything \_\_\_\_\_ (unexpected attitude) or require anything further \_\_\_\_\_ (unexpected account).
- 2 Cultural Untruths about forgiveness.
  - Should I forgive \_\_\_\_\_? *You don't have to forgive yourself; yourself has already been forgiven.* Andy Stanley
  - Do I forgive others for \_\_\_\_\_?

### 1. Make allowances FOR other sinners. Colossians 3:13a

a. *Christians can and do \_\_\_\_\_ because they're \_\_\_\_\_.*

### 2. Forgive AS a sinner. Colossians 3:13b

a. *Christians can and do forgive because they've \_\_\_\_\_.*

i. "I'm Better" Syndrome. The main obstacle to forgiving others is our own \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_. **self-righteousness**. "I would never do what they did. I'm better."

1. Sin of unforgiveness. Matthew 6:14-15

ii. "He's the best," and He forgave ME.

1. Forgave me of millions; I can forgive hundreds.

b. *Christians can and do forgive because they've \_\_\_\_\_.*

By the power of the gospel we **have been** forgiven; through the gospel we are **called** to forgive; and through the power of the gospel we **can** forgive.

Begin by praying: "Father, thank you for forgiving me of all my sins. But in my life I've also been sinned against. As I work through this brief study, open my eyes to the true condition of my heart towards some people who upset me. Fill me with the Holy Spirit that I can respond to anything He urges me to do. Amen."

Think about this...

- What did Jesus mean by Matthew 6:14-15? Can a believer lose his/her salvation by refusing to forgive someone? Why, why not? And most of all, why do you think Jesus even said this?
  
- If you've refused to forgive a particular person, have you thought about why that is? Do you wrestle with the "I'm Better" Syndrome? Privately rehearse the five worst things you think you've ever done. In your mind, is what the other person did to you worse? What do you think God would say about that?
  
- Since marriage is the closest human relationship that exists—and the one in which two people spend more time rubbing shoulders with each other than anyone else, sins and lesser offences will be both frequent and intensely felt. If you're married, how big has your sack containing remembered past offenses, become? Which ones do you bring up when the two of you are quarreling? What needs to be discussed with your spouse, and what needs to be buried beneath the blanket of forgiveness?