Women of Africa Care Pty Ltd

WOAC On Air –04 April 2024
Episode 90
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Topic:
Addressing unforgiveness and wiping the slate clean

Forgiveness is a decision of the will not the (mind or emotions), meaning you must "will" to forgive. It is impossible to forgive in your "will" if you do not comprehend Jesus works on the cross of calvary. When you received Jesus Christ as Lord of your life you exchanged your life for His life, therefore you live in His righteousness, for no human is good and righteous except God. To live in His righteous requires you to embrace His ways on the earth, He was innocent without guilt and took on all human guilt and sickness on the cross. Therefore you have no choice but to forgive whether you are innocent or guilty from being persecuted. It is no longer you who live but Christ in you, therefore you must forgive all people irrespective of your emotions or thoughts of the persecutors. You need to recognise that forgiveness is an unconditional action. Just like love is unconditional so too is forgiveness.Whether innocent or guilty You are too forgive those who have trespassed against me, so that our Father can pardon you of your trespasses.

Luke 6. 46But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? **47**Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: **48**He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was [j]founded on the rock. **49**But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it [k]fell. And the ruin of that house was great."

What does forgiveness look like in practical application?"
It's a heart matter, and must be dealt with from a right heart.

Forgiving with a wrong heart is deception of the heart. It must to be a heart attitude. Jeremiah 17.10 [I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds.

Psalm 44.21 Would not God find this out?
For He knows the secrets of the heart.

The importance of discernment etc.

1 Corinthians 2:14 “The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.”

Hebrews 5:14 “But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

Proverbs 28:2 “When a country is rebellious, it has many rulers, but a ruler with discernment and knowledge maintains order.”

Deuteronomy 32:28-29 “They are a nation without sense, there is no discernment in them. 29 If only they were wise and would understand this and discern what their end will be!”

What is discernment and how do we apply guard our hearts

Romans 12:9 “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.”

Proverbs 14:8 “The wisdom of the prudent is to discern his way but the folly of fools is deceiving.”

John 7:24 “Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”
Proverbs 1119:66 “Teach me good discernment and knowledge for I believe in your commandments.”

Forgiveness starts with a decision to have a right heart towards God

Self-awareness toward your heart state
[Psalm 139.23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Try me, and know my anxieties;
24And see if *there is any* wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.]

1 Samuel 16.7
But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

Luke 6.27 “But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. 31And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

Guard your heart to stay in wellness after forgiving.

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Why must you forgive?

A) So you don't You lose your inheritance

Due to traumatized outbursts - Genesis 49.5-7 Jacobs blessings over Simeon and Levi were a response to their irresponsible conduct:

"Simeon and Levi *are* brothers;
Instruments of [a]cruelty *are in* their dwelling place.
6Let not my soul enter their council;
Let not my honor be united to their assembly;
For in their anger they slew a man,
And in their self-will they [b]hamstrung an ox.
7Cursed *be* their anger, for *it is* fierce;
And their wrath, for it is cruel!
I will divide them in Jacob
And scatter them in Israel.

B) God exempts / immunizes you from your transgression

We reap what we sow. If we sow forgiveness, then we receive immunization (mercy) in time of need. Mark 11:25 - And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

C) Brings you freedom and liberty

D) You have right standing with God just as if we have never transgressed

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Psalm 103.11 He has not dealt with us according to our sins,Nor punished us according to our iniquities. 11For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; 12As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. [this means forgotten]