

# The Power of Forgiveness - Conclusion

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I have found the Lord to be in a really, really talkative mood, but only if you take the time to listen. You have to apply yourself to that, to listen. God is saying that these are critical times, and really, really important times.

Here is a principle for you to remember: the enemy is not smart enough to get ahead of the Lord. What the enemy is doing is trying to counter what he sees God doing, and it's sad sometimes that the people in the church can't see, or don't see, what God is doing. So I'm encouraging you to pay attention.

Everything that we do is critical and strategic. I commend you for doing something with the word that you are receiving. That's a big deal. And for someone who does what I do, that's one of the great feelings of payback that I get, that you're doing something with the word that is spoken. So, thank you for that, and keep doing that.

The power of forgiveness is something extremely simple, yet so deep that it affects every single thing that you ever do in your life. It will initiate, spark, and activate, very possibly the most dramatic, or at least one of the greatest transformations in your own life you'll ever experience.

A deep, deep work of the Spirit. There's hardly anything that has as much transforming effect on our lives and the people around us, as forgiveness.

*"Do you want to be known as a good forgiver?"* If you say yes, that means that you respond well to the opportunities that you have to forgive. There are going to be a lot of them.

Kingdom people stay in the mode of forgiveness. That helps you to set your heart to forgive before anything even happens. It makes it easier when the opportunity comes up.

Last week, Eric talked about something that a lot of you have wrestled with in our life, and that is forgiving yourself. But there is also something fairly prevalent, is people who have something against God.

Forgiveness unlocks your destiny. I'm not talking about destination (Heaven's destination), but your destiny. Destiny is the people, the events, that things that you encounter on the way to your destination. If you can't forgive, you're not going to fulfill your destiny. It's that serious, the power of forgiveness.

Forgiveness set you free and keeps you free. If you can't forgive, you can't be free. It cleans the slate. It lightens the load. It kills the flesh.

*"Agape love and forgiveness just might be the most powerful form of ministry there is".* It's simple, but it's not easy. It might even be the hardest thing that you ever do.

There are people here who've grown up in the Bible Belt, who have this mentality that someone stands up here, analyzes God, talks about God, and does all the ministry. The pastor, along with a few more, do all the ministry. That's not even a biblical concept.

My responsibility is not to do all the ministry. I'm going to limit myself to doing the things that I'm good at, and then look around for people in the house who are good at the things that I'm not good at. So, don't expect me to do it all, and I won't expect you to do it all. Let's expect one another to do what we're called to do, and to do the things we're good at.

You are here today not to just get fed and get filled up and then do nothing with it. You're here to get fed and equipped for the work of the ministry. That's a million times more powerful than one or two or a dozen people doing ministries.

The church will never be the church that God has ordained for her to be, until people buy into that principle, and start to walk in it. If you're here to be equipped, start to process what you hear today in a way that you can take that and give it to somebody else.

Your forgiveness was purchased by the blood of Jesus. It didn't come at a cheap price.

We talked a lot about the verse that says we're to forgive, as Christ also forgave us. He didn't have to think about it. He didn't dwell on it. He didn't hold it over our heads. He forgave.

When I talked about the process of forgiveness, you forgive, and when you forgive, it's an act of your will. You forgive, and I think it's good to say, "I Forgive", and then put that person's name in there, or that group's name, whatever that is. When you do that, more than anybody else, you are setting yourself free. It's an act of your will.

Forgiving is a reflection of how you see that God has forgiven you.

*"Father, show me what you've forgiven me for"*. Show me. When you get a revelation of that, it's going to do something in your heart.

The enemy will always come back and try to get you to justify not forgiving. He tries to pull you back out of the forgiveness mode. In that situation, you keep on forgiving. That's the process. Seven times seventy. Keep on, just keep on forgiving that person.

When you forgive someone and they keep on offending, keep on forgiving. You keep on forgiving, but it might be wise to get out from in front of the bus.

If we're going to forgive the way that Jesus did, let's work at not just forgiving, but forgetting, too. It's a challenge. Come, Holy Spirit, help us.

Do you want to live longer? Do you want to live better? Do you want to live healthier?  
FORGIVE

When you forgive, you loose confusion and disarray into the camp of the enemy. That's the thing that the enemy hates more than anything else. When you forgive, you're doing damage to the forces of darkness.

Unforgiveness will seriously affect your ability to love. When you don't forgive, it contaminates that thing that's meant to be the most pure. And if you can't forgive, you're actually not exercising agape.

If you have someone in your circle right now who is really, really hard to love, you need to start to look at that person differently. This person could be the agent. This could be God's person to help you over another little hump in your effort to be able to love like Jesus did. Look at that person differently. Start to talk about that person differently. Start to relate to that person differently.

It's more critical to hear Him, because God has put the spiritual well-being of the planet into your hands, and people like you.

Without the church, America will not make it. And that comes down to you. What are you doing to adjust? Because it's not business as usual. The times are critical.

The church is asleep. I'm not just talking about you. The church worldwide is asleep. We're still stuck in the whole "*business as usual*" thing. We're doing the same old thing we used to do. And the problem is, people are not listening to the Lord and looking at the right indicators, or you would see that God is doing something He's never done before. The Kingdom is going to come with you, or without you.

If we yield to unforgiveness, the enemy always brings other things to throw on with it. Always. And it never fails. Hebrews 12: 14-15, "*Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord. Look carefully, lest anyone fall short of the grace of God, lest any root of bitterness springing up, causes trouble, and by this, many become defiled*".

Bitterness leads to unforgiveness, and unforgiveness won't just run your life, it will ruin your life. Unforgiveness makes you susceptible to everything in the enemy's arsenal.

*"Decide right now to be a forgiver".*

*"First off, I'm going to forgive anybody whom I have anything against or ought against, or whatever. I'm going to do that. I'm going to forgive anyone who says anything to me, or does anything to me that would require forgiveness. I'm just going to forgive him".* God wants that to be your heart. As we mature, we'll get better at forgiving, even if it takes the process.

Forgiveness is not a feeling you have. It's a choice you make. That goes back to you getting the revelation of God's forgiveness for you, how He's forgiven you.

Whether the other person changes or not, it changes you when you forgive. Forgiveness is the key element contained within agape. It's built in. If you're going to love like He did, you're going to be a forgiver.

This house is going to do something in Guatemala and we are going to find out what it is, so be praying for those guys: Shannon, Roy, Johnny and Elmer, this week. It will be a critical week in the future of what we're going to do down there.

Matthew 16: 19, “*And I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven*”. Agape is the master key to the Kingdom of Heaven and right under that comes forgiveness and grace.

Let’s talk really quickly about forgiving God. You have plenty of opportunities in life to get angry at God. He can take it and it doesn’t affect His love for you. But get a revelation of what actually happened in that situation, and listen to what God will say to you. That’s how this thing works, as you listen to God.

Consistency in walking with the Lord will get you there. That’s the only thing that will get you there. It comes down to you and Him wrestling through this stuff.

If you have a thing toward God that way, it’s serious, because it’s going to profoundly affect your relationship with Him. If you can’t trust Him, you won’t abandon your life to Him. Take your issues to Him. “*Show me, help me, help me with this*”. Let Him bring you to a place of healing, and you’ll go deeper.

When we’re talking about forgiving, you can do it. The question is, will you? That’s where the question come in. If you want to lighten your load, have a sharper mind, sleep better and really rest. FORGIVE.

Do you want everything in your life to start moving in the right direction? Do you want to break the back of the enemy? Do you want your life to be better in every area? Do you want to get the most out of life? Do you want to become more like Jesus right now? THEN, FORGIVE!