

# The Power Of Forgiveness

Part four of the series, "Connect: Embracing God's Power Through Others"

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**Sunday, March 24, 2019 • Pastor Parris Hayashi**

*"And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. <sup>11</sup>Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. <sup>12</sup>And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup>But he who endures to the end shall be saved."  
(Matthew 24:10-13 NKJV)*

*"An offended friend is harder to win back than a fortified city. Arguments separate friends like a gate locked with bars." (Proverbs 18:19 NLT)*

## **Unresolved offense opens the door to our own IMPRISONMENT.**

*"Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him." (1 John 3:15 NIV)*

*"If an enemy were insulting me, I could endure it; if a foe were rising against me, I could hide. <sup>13</sup>But it is you, a man like myself, my companion, my close friend, <sup>14</sup>with whom I once enjoyed sweet fellowship at the house of God, as we walked about among the worshipers."  
(Psalm 55:12-14 NIV)*

## **Forgiveness is a CORE VALUE of a follower of Jesus Christ.**

*"Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'" (Matthew 18:21-22 NIV)*

*"A person who cannot forgive is a person who's forgotten what they have been forgiven of." -John Bevere*

*"And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." (Matthew 6:12 NIV)*

## **Forgiveness begins with a CHOICE and is IMMEDIATE.**

*"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup>But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven..." (Matthew 5:43-45 ESV)*

## **Forgiveness allows us to live FREELY.**

*"He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west." (Psalm 103:12 NLT)*