



#1 Faith to Forgive Your Family

1. THE CALL TO FORGIVE

Matthew 18:21 Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.”

Luke 17:3 Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

Luke 17:5 The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.”

2. THE SIGNS OF AN UNFORGIVING HEART

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

3. THE CONSEQUENCES OF HOLDING A GRUDGE

Matthew 18:35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.

4. THE POWER OF FAITH!

A Proportion to Accept. My offenses against God were immeasurably greater than their sins against me... and God forgave me completely!

500,000:1

A Perspective to Acquire. God allows offenses to occur, and His purposes for doing so are good.

A Person to Adore. Meditating deeply on Jesus’ inexplicable forgiveness of His enemies melts our hearts and fuels our own ability to forgive.

The Time to Forgive is NOW!

The Forgiveness Promise

- I promise to stop being their Judge
- I promise to stop holding the offense against them and rehearsing the offense in my imagination
- I promise to cease repaying evil with evil
- I promise to not bring it up again to them or others
- I promise to start praying blessing for them and speaking well of them in thoughts, prayers, words, and deeds
- I promise to seek reconciliation with them in those situations where it is appropriate

- God is showing me there is someone He is calling me to forgive
- I’m asking God to give me enough faith to forgive them
- By faith I am choosing to forgive them (again) TODAY!