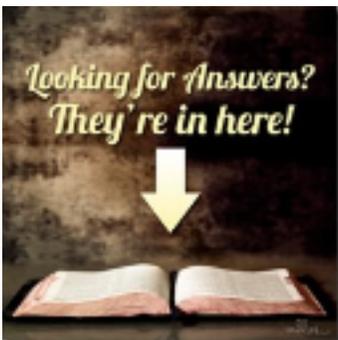


Learn to Forgive



This is Vital! We simply must learn to forgive others and not hold a grudge against anyone.

It's something that we need to consciously do as we go along in life, and not let bitterness and unforgiveness creep in. This is living a spiritual life which is Love and Obedience to the Lord. We can do this, with Jesus' wonderful help, and through taking heed to the Word of God ... To live by the Word which will give you the mindset of always being "ready to forgive," just like our Father in Heaven, Jesus is our Example to follow. "For Thou, Lord, Art Good, and Ready to Forgive; and Plenteous in Mercy unto all them that call upon Thee." Ps. 86:5 Forgiveness is not optional, it's a Command.



Matthew 6:12 says, "And Forgive us our Debts as we Forgive our Debtors...Jesus said in Matt. 6:14-15 "If you forgive men their Trespases, your Heavenly Father will also Forgive you." "But if you Forgive not men their Trespases, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive your Trespases." The Holy Bible clearly shows us the best way of life. The Word is never wrong, and it is True from the beginning, Ps. 119:160. We can Trust it's guidance. Loving God and Loving one another is the Key to a joyful, content life in the Lord, and no matter what things stand in our way, we are Overcomers in Jesus. (Rom. 8:37) Mark 12: 30-31, reads, "And thou shalt Love the Lord thy God with all thy Heart, and with all thy Soul, and with all thy Mind, and with all thy Strength: this is the First Commandment." "And the Second is like, Namely this, Thou shalt Love thy Neighbor as thyself." "There is none other Commandment Greater than these." When we repent, God throws all our sins behind His back and He no longer sees them, so we should do likewise. This is that Scripture: "Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but Thou hast in Love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for Thou hast Cast all my Sins Behind Thy Back!" Is. 38:17

"The Blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich and He addeth no sorrow with it." Pr. 10:22 "The Name of the Lord is a Strong Tower; the righteous runneth into it and are safe." Pr. 18:10 There is a common saying, "To Err is Human ... To Forgive Divine." Unforgiveness puts you in bondage. It is a snare of the devil...as soon as you take offense it takes over your thought-life and takes away your Peace and Tranquility. However, we can ask and Jesus will gladly help us forgive anyone, if we sincerely want His help. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16 **Taking offense and choosing to be offended:** We all know what it is like to be treated wrongly or harshly; to be talked about, or lied about, cheated, or whatever it is.

To be offended is easier than Forgiving. But Friends, Unforgiveness is a destructive thought pattern. **Let's change this thinking today!** Being offended traps You! Taking offense is the Trigger of the Trap where the Bait is placed. "When the animal touches the trigger, for example, he is caught!" When you are offended you are the one who is caught in the Trap! By thinking and knowing this, you will stay out of the Traps. **Being offended comes from self-righteousness.** We tend to think and feel like: "How could they do that to me?" "I would have never done that!" Friend, we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Embrace Humility and be circumspect, knowing that you have failed also. 1 Corinthians 13:5 says that Love (God's love in us) is not Touchy or Fretful, or Resentful." Why? Because it pays no attention to a suffered wrong. We get offended when we pay attention to the wrong we have suffered. Stop paying Attention! And Take Back Control. We let others control us, when we Pay Attention to what people said or did to us! **Nothing can offend you. How?** Love and Feed on the Word of God.

Attach yourself to what God says, and you will be able to detach from the feelings and power of what others have done or said. **Helpful Scriptures:** "There is no temptation "or trial" taken you but such as is common to man: but God is Faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the Temptation (trial) also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it." 1 Cor. 10:13 Jesus said, "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, Bless them that curse you, do good to them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in Heaven: for He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust." "For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye?" "Do not publicans the same?" Matt. 5:44-45 "If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." 1 Peter 4:16 "In every thing give Thanks, for this is the Will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thes. 5:18 "And we know that all things work together for Good to them that Love God..." Rom. 8:28 "If God be for us, Who can be Against us! Rom. 8:31 "Greater is He that is within us than he that is in the world." 1 Jn 4:4 "And be ye Kind to one another, Tenderhearted, Forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath Forgiven you."

"For you were sometimes darkness, but now are you Light in the Lord: walk as Children of Light!" "For the Fruit of the Spirit is in all Goodness and Righteousness, and Truth; Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord." Eph. 4:32, 5:8-10 "Let your Light so Shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven." Matt. 5:16 "Blessed are the Peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven." Blessed are the Merciful, for they shall obtain Mercy." "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the Earth." "Blessed are the Pure in Heart, for they shall see God." "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after Righteousness, for they shall be filled." Matthew 5 "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thes. 5:9

