



“Forgiveness”

Pardon not Parole
II Corinthians 2:1-11

Forgiveness involves the:

I. Feelings – “I wrote unto you with many tears” (vs. 1-4)

There needs to be:

- A. Remorse** – “I would not come again to you in heaviness”
- B. Rejoicing** – “of whom I ought to rejoice”
- C. Reassurance** – “having confidence in you all”

II. Fellowship - “swallowed up with overmuch sorrow” (vs. 5-8)

There is a time to:

- A. Charge** – “that I may not overcharge you all”
- B. Comfort** – “to forgive and comfort”
- C. Confirm** – “that ye would confirm your love toward him”

III. Fight – “we are not ignorant of his devices” (vs. 9-11)

The battle is about:

- A. Character** - “whether ye be obedient in all things”
- B. Christ** – “for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ”
- C. Church** – “Lest Satan should get an advantage of us”

Sentence Sermon

“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.”

Lewis B. Smedes

Additional Verses

- *Luke 17:3-4*
- *I Peter 4:8*
- *I Corinthians 5:1-6*
- *Proverbs 13:10*
- *Genesis 45:1-5, 14-15; 50:15-21*
- *Romans 12:9*
- *Ephesians 4:32*
- *Mark 11:25*
- *Matthew 6:14-15; 18:21-22*
- *Luke 6:37*
- *Colossians 3:13*
- *Proverbs 10:12*

Questions to Ponder

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
3. Why is Paul concerned with the Corinthian church’s feelings?
4. Why does Paul say that he is not grieved even though he was?
5. What is the lesson about forgiving in “sufficient is this punishment?”
6. What are some results of not forgiving someone? to the individuals/church?
7. What does Paul say that our ability and actions to forgive prove about us?
8. How does not forgiving result in Satan getting an advantage of us?
9. What is the hardest thing about forgiving people who hurt or offend us?
10. Is it possible to forgive someone that does not repent or apologize?
11. What questions do you have about forgiveness?