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Forgiveness

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# Character piece

I think it is a very important piece of character that we need to have, we need power but also able to have this strength. This generation really easy to get offended and not look deeper for more information. Pursue character and heart and not being offended.

A lot of quotes, use this and see where I got my revelation from. Strength to love by Martin Luther King Junior. Another book; Exclusion and embrace, a theological exploration of relationship and reconciliation.

# Quotes

Forgiveness is not an occasional act, but a permanent attitude. - Martin Luther King

The degree in which we are able to forgive determines the degree to which we can love - Martin Luther King

If God can forgive us, we also need to forgive ourselves. Otherwise, we say our courts are higher than His. - C.S Lewis

Abraham Lincoln appointed Stinton as his leader of war. Do you understand how he made himself an enemy towards you? Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?

# Giant spider

Hate destroys a man’s value and objectivity. Confuses true with the false, false with the true. Unforgiveness is like a giant spider on your chest, that bites you and sucks the life and joy out of you. You are petting it on the back and giving it life as it slowly eats you away. That's bitterness, frustration anger, and hatred.

# Angry and frustrated

Driving in his car when finished 3rd year, in a church of like-minded people and going there. Best friend like Chris Cruz, he doesn't go to third year, hired after second year. All this favor on his life. I was running with him his whole life! Why doesn't anybody hire me? Then he is married to his wife :p Sitting here, doing sound; a job he doesn't want to do.

Don't know why I am here, the Lord was setting him up all the time, training and conferences he doesn't have perspective of what God is doing in him. Everyone launched around him and he feels stuck. He went to Simpson and theology, when I get launched I am ready. Spiritual formation class, teaching different strategies on the meditation of the Word. Go to your favorite Scripture until something gets highlighted and repeat it over and over until you get more knowledge about it.

# A happy heart

He gets a phrase: "a happy heart is one of thankfulness and celebration" He said that is not the assignment God I won't repeat that I know He wants me to repeat it. He says: no I am not doing that because I am not happy and you're a jerk. With the lamest little mutter, he says it, it comes again and again. Then he takes a deep breath and says: A happy heart is one of thankfulness and celebration. The Lord showed him faces of people he needed to forgive, bitterness towards. People that he held an offense against that were keeping him from being close to God. He is crying, no one else is having that.

# Bitterness

Every face that came: I forgive you and release you from my bitterness.

A lot of times we choose bitterness and forgiveness toward one person, but you can't turn it off to one person. You turn it off to everybody. He was missing out on the love of everybody around him and the love of his daughter.

The inner exclusion: the older one will not be the brother of the prodigal, your son. As the son embraced him, now the son needs to un-son himself. He is not addressing the father as a father. He excludes himself from relationship from the Father. The moment we choose bitterness we un-son ourselves from our Heavenly Father. I am no longer your brother but also lost the Father. The relationship wasn't based on moral acts, so it wasn't gone when there were immoral acts.

# Relationship over rules

Relationship is over rules; he is the father of his sons, and his sons are brothers of each other. Between them, they had laws of good and bad. Relational categories and structure along lost and found. Everything the father does is about relationship. The older son has put rules, justice, and self-righteousness over this: good and bad, right and wrong. Right and good with us, or wrong and bad excluded. God has lost and found, your brother was lost, now found. Dead but now he is alive.

Relationship is not founded upon moral performance. The enemy wants us to think like the older brother, in a construct of thinking. Self-righteousness, entitlement. You deserve this, you did something wrong. Can’t believe so and so did this, o my gosh how wrong is that? You're inviting yourself into good and bad, right and wrong. There is exclusion. When we do that we lose the thinking of the father's heart and forget the forgiveness that was bestowed upon us.

**How does this work out in everyday life?**

Jesus while being crucified: Father forgive them, the universal revenge is gone. Only forgiveness holds sway, reconciliation. When we choose to not forgive we choose to strip away power, authority, compassion and love from the situation. You choose a victim mentality as soon as you do this. But forgiveness is an act of high sovereignty and freedom.

# Victim mentality

The enemy loves it when you choose a victim mentality. When you choose unforgiveness you have no power, you can’t affect that person’s heart anymore. Amish community; forgives the gunman for shooting down teachers and children, pays for his funeral and attends it.

# Tolerance and being controlled

We can all be tolerant for a while until something really pushes our buttons, then we get triggered back into a deeper memory. Forgiveness allows us to let go of the pain in the memory. If we let go of the pain of the memory we can no longer be controlled by the pain. We will no longer be a puppet of the past. Remember the first pain, offense, and everything would come back up again. Stuck in the past.

The moment you want to defend yourself you think that you can defend yourself better than God. You do not have to defend yourself!