

The Most Expensive Mistake

(Clearing the Field to Live an Abundant Life Series #4)

February 10, 2008

Review

Jesus came that we might live an abundant life.

To live an abundant life we must “clear the field” of SIN.

WORRY is sin – and has no place in a Christian’s life.

PRIDE is sin, is hated by God, and opens the door for other sins.

What Is The Cost Of NOT Forgiving Others?

According to Jesus - in Matt. 6:9-15:

This is how you should pray: “ Our Father in heaven...

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors....”

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your father will not forgive your sins.

In Mark 11:26

And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.

If I do not forgive others,

Forgiveness Defined –

When you **Forgive**, you give up your resentment about the wrong,
give up your resentment toward the wrongdoer,
give up your plans for retaliation.

When you **Do Not Forgive**, you resent the wrong,
resent the wrongdoer,
seek revenge.

Some quotes about forgiveness...

Forgiveness is both an act and a process.

Forgiveness is surrendering my right to hurt you for hurting me.

Forgiveness is not the same as reconciliation. It takes 2 to reconcile; but only 1 to forgive.

Little minds are wounded by little things.

A chip on your shoulder indicates there is wood higher up.

There is no use trying to talk to God if we are not on speaking terms with our brother.

Bitterness is the poison we swallow, while hoping the other person dies.

Forgiveness Does NOT Mean...

You _____

You _____ again easily

You are a _____

They are _____ from _____

Forgiveness IS...

For _____

Not an _____ Col. 3:13 Eph. 4:31,32

HOW To Forgive...

1. Assume responsibility.
2. Acknowledge unforgiveness is sin and confess it.
3. Pray specifically for the wrongdoer.
4. Speak the words of forgiveness
5. Go and ask forgiveness... IF the person is aware – or if it would benefit them.
6. Let God sort out what happens to the wrongdoer.