

The Journey of Forgiveness
“The Mindset of Forgiveness”
Part 3

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1. **Choose the mindset of the _____ rather than the flesh**

Rom. 8:5-8 “For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.” (ESV)

- Refusing to forgive is a _____ mindset
- Refusing to forgive is letting your flesh _____ how you live
- Refusing to forgive will create _____ in your life
- Refusing to forgive makes you _____ to God
- Refusing to forgive keeps you from _____ God

2. **Do not mentally _____ people**

Matt. 7:1 “Do not judge others, and you will not be judged.” (NLT)

3. **Do not think you are _____**

*Rom. 12:3 “Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don’t **think** you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.” (NLT)*

Rom. 3:9-10 “Well then, should we conclude that we Jews are better than others? No, not at all, for we have already shown that all people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin. ¹⁰ As the Scriptures say, “No one is righteous— not even one.” (NLT)

4. **Think about forgiveness with the _____**

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Page 1

Col. 3:13-14 “Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.” (NLT)

Matt. 18:33 “Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?” (NLT)

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Discussion Questions:

1. Discuss how our thinking impacts our behavior. Give some examples from your own life.
2. Why is refusing to forgive a fleshly mindset that will make forgiveness impossible. Read Rom. 8:5-8.
3. Why do we have a tendency to demonize people who have wounded us?
4. We can call specific behaviors wrong, but when do we cross the line and become judges of others?
5. Why does thinking that we are morally superior to someone make unforgiveness virtually impossible?
6. Why is it so important to understand that we are all equally broken before God?
7. Discuss how the cross makes forgiveness a reasonable choice.

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Page 2