

**The Journey of Forgiveness**  
**“The Lifestyle of Forgiveness”**  
Part 4

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*Col. 3:13-15 “Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. <sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace...” (NLT)*

**1. The lifestyle of forgiveness expects \_\_\_\_\_ from others**

*“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.*

- Be \_\_\_\_\_ of your own brokenness
- See faults as an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ not an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_
- Choose forgiveness \_\_\_\_\_ an offense happens

**2. The lifestyle of forgiveness \_\_\_\_\_ for reconciliation**

*Matt 5:23-24 “So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.” (NLT)*

- Be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ for reconciliation
- Be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ reconciliation even if it seems impossible
- Be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ yourself in order to reconcile

**3. The lifestyle of forgiveness is willing to follow Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to reconcile**

- Allow your relational brokenness to become a \_\_\_\_\_

*Rom. 8:28 “And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” (NLT)*

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**Discussion Questions:**

1. How difficult is it expecting imperfections in others? Even though we intellectually understand nobody is perfect, are we not still surprised by faults and flaws sometimes? Why?
2. Discuss the three ways given for expecting imperfection in our relationships under point #1. Discuss our struggle with these steps.
3. Forgiveness is one thing, but reconciliation is something different altogether. According to Matt. 5:23-24, reconciliation is very important to God. Discuss the three ways we prepare for reconciliation and why this is so difficult to do.
4. How can we allow our relational brokenness to become a redemptive story?
5. How does the testimony you heard on Sunday illustrate what God can do even in the most unlikely situation?
6. How can you grow in living a lifestyle of forgiveness?