

Repairing Relationships: Forgiving. Why Do It?

Recovery Road, Pt.11

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R.E.C.O.V.E.R.Y.

Realize I'm not fine and I can't make myself (or anyone else) fine.

Earnestly believe God is here, He loves me, and has the power I need.

Choose to commit my life to Christ's care and control.

Openly face my guilt & confess it to God, myself, and someone I trust.

Voluntarily submit to every change God wants to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.

E_____ all my relationships, forgive those who have hurt me and, as much as possible, make amends for the harm I've done to others.

Key Verse: *Ephesians 4:31-32*

Why Should I Forgive? Four Reasons:

1. **God** _____ **it.**

Ephesians 4:32 ...forgiving each other...

Colossians 3:13 (NIV)

*Bear with each other **and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another.** Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

2. **Resentment and revenge** _____ .

Resentment is an _____.

Revenge is an _____.

Revenge:

Romans 12:19&21 (NIV)

Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord...[21] Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Two reasons revenge doesn't work:

1) It gets in _____ .

2) It lets _____ .

Three reasons resentment doesn't work:

1) Resentment makes us _____ .

Job 21:23-25 (NIV)

*One man dies in full vigor,
completely secure and at ease,*

*[24] his body well nourished,
his bones rich with marrow.*

*[25] Another man dies in bitterness of soul,
never having enjoyed anything good.*

2) Resentment is _____ - destructive.

Job 18:4 (NIV)

***You who tear yourself to pieces in your anger,
is the earth to be abandoned for your sake?
Or must the rocks be moved from their place?***

We tear ourselves apart _____ .

We tear ourselves apart _____ .

We tear ourselves apart _____ .

3) Resentment is _____ .

Job 5:2a

Resentment kills a fool

3. **Because** _____ **has forgiven** _____ .

Ephesians 4:32b (NIV)

...just as in Christ God forgave you.

Colossians 3:13b (NIV)

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Fact: You will never have to forgive someone else more than God has forgiven you.

4. **Because I** _____ **God's forgiveness.**

Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT)

"If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. [15] But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.