

HARVEST COMMUNITY CHURCH

October 29, 2006

Radical Teachings of Jesus #3

“Forgiveness Is Not Natural”

Matthew 22:36-40 (NLT) ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?” ³⁷ Jesus replied, “ ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the other commandments and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

- I have a right relationship with God when I _____
- I have a right relationship with others when I _____

Matthew 5:23-24 (NLT) ²³ “So if you are standing before the altar in the Temple, offering a sacrifice to God, and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, ²⁴ leave your sacrifice there beside the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.”

Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV) ²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?” ²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”

What happens when I choose not to forgive?

1. I am _____
- Forgiveness is a choice of _____
 - Unforgiveness is a choice of _____

“Forgiveness reflects the highest human virtue, because it so clearly reflects the character of God.” John MacArthur

2. My _____

Ephesians 4:31-32 (NLT) ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of malicious behavior. ³² Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

3. I continually _____

Becoming a person of forgiveness:

1. Identify the people who _____
2. Determine what they _____
3. _____

Colossians 3:13 (NLT) You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

- Don't focus on the one who has _____
- Focus on the One who has paid the price to _____

October Memory Verse – Matthew 16:24-25 (NIV) ²⁴ Jesus said, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.”