

Forgiveness

1. Dealing with an offense (Who should we forgive?)
 - a. Repentance (It was a mistake) 2 Chronicles 7:14
 - b. Retribution (They've suffered enough) 2 Samuel 16:9-13
 - i. David when rocks were being thrown at him. 2 Samuel 16:9-13
 - c. Restitution (They paid me back) Luke 19:8-9
 - d. Reason (I can see their side) Joshua 22:30
 - e. Resolve (Not the most important) Proverbs 19:11
 - i. Reconciliation – relationship has been restored.
 - f. Unresolved
2. Understanding Justice
 - a. Rights and authority. Romans 13:1-4; Psalm 51:4
 - i. God is the ultimate authority.
 - ii. God grants rights and delegates authority.
 - iii. If I violate another person's rights, I have made an offense against them and God.
 - iv. God delegates authority to man to deal with evil on His behalf.
 - b. Responsibility and vengeance. Romans 12:17-21; Matthew 18:15-17; Romans 13:1-4
 - i. Noahic Covenant Genesis 9:5-6
 - ii. Kinsman Redeemer/Avenger of Blood Numbers 35:19; Deuteronomy 19:11-12
 - iii. Christianity Romans 12:17-21; Matthew 18:15-17
 - iv. Government Romans 13:1-4
3. Understanding forgiveness
 - a. What it's not
 - i. I'm better now
 - ii. It didn't hurt
 - iii. You weren't wrong after all.
 - iv. I like you.
 - b. Transferring the responsibility to seek vengeance. Romans 12:19
 - c. Letting go of the offense and embracing God's Spirit. Ephesians 4:26-27; 2 Timothy 1:7; Hebrews 12:14-17
 - i. Bitterness, anger, and fear serve other people's sins.
 - ii. How much love, joy and peace can one have who is controlled by anger, bitterness and fear?
4. Virtue of Forgiveness
 - a. Suffers wrong for the good of others. 1 Corinthians 6:7
 - b. Extends grace instead of resentment or vengeance. Colossians 3:12-15
 - c. Loves others instead of self. Philippians 2:3-4
 - d. Trusts God to work. 1 Peter 4:19