

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS

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PART 3: FORGIVE & FORGET

GOD'S SPIRITUAL LAWS

Mankind is not allowed to operate on the earth apart from his physical body. Thus the soul brain and the spirit are limited to working through the physical brain which can be likened to a computer. This computer is designed to control the physical body and its functions. If the physical brain is damaged, it will hinder the soul brain from fully expressing itself. **Deuteronomy 18:9-14**

- ❖ One example of spiritual to physical hindrance would be a person in a coma. The physical body is very limited in its ability to function. The soul can hear and at times expresses itself through blinking of the eyes or the squeezing of a hand.
- ❖ Another example of spiritual to physical hindrance would be a person with Alzheimer's or dementia. They can be likened to a computer keyboard which has a number of dead keys. Anyone using this keyboard is limited to the remaining keys that still function. If all the keys go bad, the computer user will have severe reduced functionality, making it nearly impossible to access the computer with just a mouse.

THE LAW OF FORGIVENESS

God forgives us when we repent. You may be dealing with an unconfessed sin or finding it impossible to forgive someone who has hurt you. Unforgiveness is a sin. Refusing to deal with it will lead to an early grave.

Jesus demanded that we have to forgive people for what they have done. God won't grant you mercy and grace if you refuse to extend forgiveness to others. **Matthew 6:9-15**

In order to make sure that the disciples understood the law of forgiveness, Jesus taught the concept in a parable. **Matthew 18:21-35**

Wellness begins with forgiveness!

AN ETERNAL LAW

Before the creation of angels and the universe, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit looked into the future and saw what would happen once the creation began. God decided there would be no forgiveness for any angel who rebelled against Him, so when Lucifer and the third of all angels rebelled, there was no redemption and they were sentenced to eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10**

Angels cannot be forgiven, nor do they extend forgiveness. **Exodus 23:20-23**

Moses wanted to be led by God, not an angel. **Exodus 33:12-15**



CREATION OF MANKIND

God stood accused by Lucifer and mankind was created to prove His righteousness. **Romans 3:20-26**

Adam and Eve were created perfectly with a sinless body, soul and spirit. They did not know what had taken place before they were created. They knew nothing about angels, Lucifer's reign on earth, his rebellion against God, and the terrible space war that had ravaged the universe. God knew that when Eve was tempted by the most cunning and evil of the fallen angels that she would choose to sin and seduce her husband as well. This is why God instituted the law of forgiveness for the human race. **Genesis 3:1-7, 15**

JESUS ON FORGIVENESS

The apostle Peter wanted to know if there was a limit on forgiveness. How many times could a person hurt him before he was allowed to stop forgiving? The answer Jesus supplied was surprising. **Matthew 18:21-22; Mark 11:25-26**

Jesus taught a parable about forgiveness. **Matthew 18:23-34**

Forgiveness is not optional! You must practice forgiveness if you want to be forgiven by the Lord. **verse 35**

THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS

A man had two sons who were working on his property. One day the younger son decided that he was tired of working on his father's estate and demanded his future inheritance. **Luke 15:11-12**

He took off with the cash to live a wild and sinful life in a city and spent his money in a short amount of time. **verses 13-14**

He found a job feeding pigs just to survive. **verses 15-16**

The pain and misery of his situation motivated him to repent and make peace with his father. While he wanted to come home, the young man felt unworthy to be restored as a son and figured he could work for his father as a servant. **verses 17-19**

He did not know how much his father loved him. The father had already forgiven his wayward son and was simply waiting for his son to repent and return home. **verses 20-21**

The father had a plan to fully restore his son and reinstate all his privileges. **verses 22-24**

The older brother did not like what was happening. How could their father restore a scoundrel like his younger brother who had demanded his inheritance, blown it on women and alcohol, and then have the nerve to come back and ask to be forgiven? **verses 25-28**

The father told the older son, "I have forgiven your brother. I want you to rejoice because it was my desire to forgive your rebellious brother." **verses 29-32**

GOD FORGIVES & RESTORES

Human beings are often slow to forgive and even then we have a warm-up period. Sometimes it can take years before the anger, pain, and grudges are gone and fellowship is restored. This is not the way God does it. Once a person accepts Christ, he is immediately forgiven and restored. **Isaiah 55:6-13; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

A Christian will never be sinless on earth, but we have the opportunity to repent on a daily basis and live in continuous cleansing by the blood of Jesus. **1 John 1:4-10**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?