

# ***Forgive One Another***

Ephesians 4:30-32

We talk a good forgiving line  
as long as somebody else needs to do it,  
but few of us have the heart for it  
while we are dangling from one end of a  
bond broken by somebody else's cruelty.

*-Lewis Smedes*

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling, and slander, along with every form of malice.

Ephesians 4:30-31

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32

*Main Thought*

*Forgiveness can transform us  
into forgivers*

What is forgiveness?

Forgiveness is not:

Forbearance

Condoning sin

Neglecting justice

Excusing a wrongdoing

Forgetting a wrongdoing

Forgiveness is:

1. How to deal with wrongdoing
2. An expression of love
3. A generous release of a genuine debt
4. Responding to God's forgiveness
5. Overcoming evil with good
6. Choosing mercy over revenge

I Corinthians 13:5

Colossians 3:13

Luke 6:36



We forgive when we:

1. Name and condemn the wrongdoing
2. Give a wrongdoer the gift of not counting the wrongdoing against them
3. Remember how we have been forgiven
4. Choose mercy over retribution
5. Release resentment and vengeance
6. Pray for the wrongdoer

Romans 12:19

Hebrews 10:30

II Corinthians 5:10

Forgiveness can transform us  
into forgivers

*We forgive because God has forgiven...  
for us to hold any offender captive to sin  
by refusing to forgive is to reject  
the reality of God's forgiving grace.*

*-Miroslav Volf*

## *PRAYER*

Open your hands and heart...

to receive

the gift of forgiveness in Jesus Christ

to release

resentment and desire for revenge

to offer the gift of forgiveness to a wrongdoer