







"The Wonder of Forgiveness" Pastor Paul Spate

Review: "Sin that easily besets us" (Heb.12:2)- Yeast What is repentance?

* Forgiveness: This is not a simple topic...

I. Processing Forgiveness (When sinned against)

- A. Why Forgive? Reasons to forgive...
 - 1. Commanded to forgive. (Eph. 4:32)
 - 2. Past: Because you have received forgiveness.
 - 3. Future: Because you will need to be forgiven.
 - 4. Release: The person needs forgiveness.
 - 5. Freedom: Unforgiveness will bind you to that
 - 6. Representative: Privilege of representing your Father God. It is God working through us.

B. Ingredients of Releasing:

- Acknowledging: "I have been sinned against!"; Name the sin(s). How were you wronged? Harmed?
- 2. Impact: Effect, impact, personally, relationally.... Cautious: Righteous indignation.
- Release the person into God's hands (Justice)
- Do not hold it against them (e.g. remind; not use against the person). Col.3:13
 - Do not be naïve (the potential for repetitive sin).
 - Active Grace: Forgive 70x7 (Lk.17:3-4)

II. Receiving Forgiveness

(When I have sinned)

- 1. Confession: Admitting; naming sin (1 Jn.1:9)- stop sinning! Acknowledging it as sin and rebellion against God.
- 2. Repentance: Godly sorrow, turning from sin; changing your mind (Acts 2:38, 3:19; 8:22)
 - * This is the key <u>requirement</u> attached to forgiveness!
- 3. Receiving Forgiveness: Accepting God's promise
 - Pronouncement-"I receive God's forgiveness..."
 - Forgiving yourself- "Letting yourself off the hook..."
- 4. Live as one set free (Not under condemnation; not trying to pay God back...) Eph.3:20