

Raised to Life: Forgiveness that Heals

May 24, 2026

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” (Ephesians 4:6)

What is Forgiveness?

“Everyone thinks forgiveness is a lovely idea until he has something to forgive.” - C.S. Lewis

Forgiveness is cancelling the debt.

“He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.” (Colossians 2:13-14, NLT)

Forgiveness is not the same as reconciliation.

Forgiveness is something you do.
Reconciliation is something that happens between two people.

“Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” (Romans 12:17-18)

Why is Forgiveness so hard?

Obstacle 1: Judgement

Obstacle 2: Vows

Obstacle 3: False Beliefs

What Unforgiveness Does to You

Bitterness changes people. Bitterness hardens the heart.

“...that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.” (Hebrews 12:15)

How We Have Been Forgiven

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)

How to Actually Forgive

1. Name the person and the wound.
2. Acknowledge your judgements.
3. Renounce the vows.
4. Name the debt and cancel it.
5. Ask God to show you the person as He sees them.

Big Idea: What you don't release will control you.

Reflections:

1. What makes forgiveness difficult for you personally — judgment, fear, past wounds, or something else?
2. Is there a hurt or relationship where bitterness may still be shaping your thoughts, reactions, or relationships today? What does that look like?
3. What would it practically look like for you to begin releasing that hurt to God this week?

Welcome to HOME Church

Thank you for attending HOME Church. If you are looking for a church to call HOME, feel free to connect with us. Details are on our website at ourhomechurch.ca OR the welcome card in the seat in front of you.

Upcoming News + Notes:

Summer Getaway at Summit Pacific College (formerly Summer Camp) on July 3-5, 2026. Details on the church website. Day-Rate registration is NOW Open (for Saturday and Sunday).

Cantonese Evergreen Gathering on Thursday, May 28. Sign-up for lunch required. Talk to Pastor Paul for more information.

Young Adults event for both college (ages 18-25) and young careers (ages 25-35) home groups on Sunday, May 31 following the service. Talk to Pastor Vincent, Tim, or Charissa for more details.

Missions Gathering with Ian Perry on Sunday, May 31st from 10:30am-11:30am in the church basement. Join the missions team and missionary, Ian Perry, for a ministry update and how to share the gospel in our modern-day world. All are welcome.

Welcome to HOME Church Party. If you are new to HOME Church in the last few months, feel free to join us for refreshments and snacks in the church basement on Sunday, June 7th from 10:45am – 11:15am. For more details, please contact Pastor Andy.

Building HOPE Together Campaign details can be found online (scan QR code).

Giving Options at HOME Church. Our preferred way of giving is through e-transfer debit. You can set this up with your banking platform by giving at give@ourhomechurch.ca. Please make cheques out to "HOME Church". All giving details are on our website. **Thank you** for your continued generosity and support of HOME Church's mission and vision.