

THE GIFT OF FORGIVENESS
ThanksGifting – Part 3
November 25, 2007

Matthew 10:8b (TLB) “Give as freely as you have received!”

FORGIVENESS QUIZ

- T F A person should not be forgiven until they ask for it.**
- T F Forgiving includes minimizing the offense and the pain caused.**
- T F Forgiveness includes restoring trust and reuniting a relationship.**
- T F You haven't really forgiven until you've forgotten the offense.**
- T F When I see someone hurt, it is my duty to forgive the offender.**

WHAT FORGIVENESS IS NOT...

- 1. It isn't _____.**
- 2. It isn't _____ the seriousness of the offense.**
- 3. It isn't _____ a relationship without changes.**
- 4. It isn't _____ what happened.**
- 5. It isn't _____ when you weren't the one who was hurt.**

WHAT IS GENUINE FORGIVENESS?

1. _____ how much you've been forgiven.

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV) *"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*

2. _____ your right to get even.

Romans 12:19 (TLB) *"...Never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God, for He has said that He will repay those who deserve it..."*

3. _____ to evil with good.

Luke 6:27b-28 (NIV) *"...Do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."*

1 Corinthians 13:5d (NIV) *"It (love) keeps no record of wrongs."*

4. _____ the process as long as necessary.

Matthew 18:21-22 (NLT) *"Then Peter came to Him and asked, 'Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?'²² 'No!' Jesus replied, 'seventy times seven!'"*

WHY OFFER GRACIOUS FORGIVENESS TO OTHERS?

1. God is _____ to you.

Ephesians 4:32 (Msg) *"Be gentle with one another, sensitive. **Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly** as God in Christ forgave you."*

2. The _____ is bitterness.

Hebrews 12:15 (Phillips) *"Be careful that none of you fails to respond to the grace which God gives, for if he does there can very easily spring up in him a bitter spirit which is not only bad in itself but can also poison the lives of many others."*

3. God _____ you to do it.

Matthew 6:14-15 (CEV) *"If you forgive others for the wrongs they do to you, **your Father in heaven will forgive you.**¹⁵ But if you don't forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins."*