

Why people find it hard to forgive

Without grace we carry our sins and the things people have done to us everywhere we go like a person dragging around a wheely bin full of rotting garbage. We do it because the un-forgiven....



1. Needs excuses for his own sin

2. Needs to feel he is above others on the slippery pole of self righteousness to slate his conscience.

3. Needs to see justice to make him feel secure in an unsafe world .

What we must accept, to be free to forgive

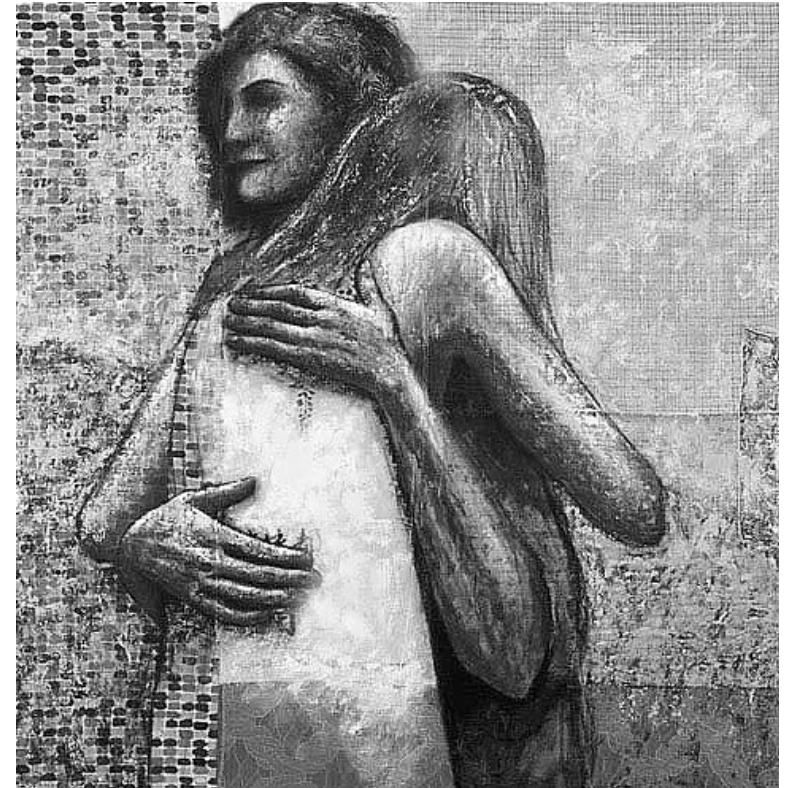
That in Christ we have Grace, total forgiveness and acceptance. We have nothing left to pay and nothing left to prove.



The knowledge that justice has been done—the sin has been paid for, or for the unrepentant, will be paid for in the future.

Even though the servants plea for patience was misguided, the king still wiped his debt in the hope that he would appreciate the grace even more.

Forgiveness



Jesus came to pay debts not create them !!!!!!!

Jesus on Forgiveness

"I owe I owe so off to work I go"



"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. {24} As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. {25} Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. (The debt in modern terms = \$750,000,000)

Who is the king?

Who is the servant?

What's the debt?

Pweeeeeese give me time to pay !!!

"The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' {27} The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. {28}

Can you see anything wrong with what the servant asked?

What is the point of the king's letting him off completely—why did he do that? What is Jesus saying here?

Can you believe this?????!!!

"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. {29} "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' {30} "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. (100 denarii = \$100.00)

Why was the forgiven servant in such a miserable mood after having had the debt cancelled?



How does this relate to the two things we need to be able to forgive?

Is it possible that he saw his friend's debt to him as a significant factor in putting him into debt to the king?

Into prison till you learn your lesson!

When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened. {32} "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. {33} Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' {34} In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. {35} "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart." (Mat 18:23-35)



Comment on the effect of un-forgiveness on the community

What does the torture in prison represent ?

What is the only option open to the servant?