

**LIFE’S HEALING CHOICES—PART 6**  
**“RELATIONSHIP REPAIR!”**  
**Pastor Terri Shaffer—August 14, 2022**

**Matthew 5:7**—“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.”

**Matthew 5:9**—“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

**The Relationship Choice:**

**“I evaluate all my relationships, offer forgiveness to those who have hurt me, and make amends for harm that I’ve done to others, except when to do so would harm them or others.”**

**Matthew 18:21-27** (NLT)—“Then Peter came to him and asked, ‘Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?’ ‘No, not seven times,’ Jesus replied, ‘but seventy times seven!’ ‘Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. He couldn’t pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt. But the man fell down before his master and begged him, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.’ Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.”

**Principles Of Forgiveness:**

**1) Because I’ve Been Forgiven, I Can Forgive!**

**Luke 15:11-16** (TPT)—“Then Jesus said, ‘Once there was a father with two sons. The younger son came to his father and said, ‘Father, don’t you think it’s time to give me my share of your estate?’” So the father went ahead and distributed between the two sons their inheritance. Shortly afterward, the younger son packed up all his belongings and traveled off to see the world. He journeyed to a far-off land where he soon wasted all he was given in a binge of extravagant and reckless living. With everything spent and nothing left, he grew hungry, because there was a severe famine in that land. So he begged a farmer in that country to hire him. The farmer hired him and sent him out to feed the pigs. The son was so famished, he was willing to eat the slop given to the pigs, because no one would feed him a thing...”

**Luke 15:20-21** (TPT)—“So the young son set off for home. From a long distance away, his father saw him coming, dressed as a beggar, and great compassion swelled up in his heart for his son who was returning home. The father raced out to meet him, swept him up in his arms, hugged him dearly, and kissed him over and over with tender love. Then the son said, ‘Father, I was wrong. I have sinned against you. I could never deserve to be called your son. Just let me be.’ The Father interrupted and said, ‘Son, you’re home now!’”

**Colossians 3:13** (NLT)—“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”

**Matthew 18:28-35** (NLT)—“But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanding instant payment. His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it,’ he pleaded. But his creditor wouldn’t wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’ Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

‘That’s what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart.’”

## **2) The Unforgiving Become The Unforgiven!**

**Psychologists define Forgiveness:** “A conscious, deliberate decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance toward a person or group who has harmed you, regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness.”

- **It’s Not Minimizing The Offense**
- **It’s Not Forgetting What Happened**
- **It’s Not Always Reconciliation**

## **Forgiveness Isn't for the Other Person—it's for YOU!**

**Matthew 6:14-15** (NLT)—“If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

**Luke 6:37**—“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”

**James 2:13** (NLT)—“There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.”

### **Next Steps:**

- 1) Recognize Your Own Imperfections (Romans 3:23)**
- 2) Focus On The Real Enemy (Ephesians 6:12)**
- 3) Pray For Those Who Have Offended You or Those You've Done Wrong (Matthew 5:43-44)**
- 4) Do Good To Those Who Have Offended You or To Those You Have Offended (The Golden Rule)**

**Today I forgive...**