



February 18, 2018

“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”
Colossians 3:13

I. The Purpose of Unforgiveness

- A. Debt is power!
- B. Debt is identity!
- C. Debt is entitlement!
- D. Debt is weaponry!
- E. Debt puts us in God’s position!

II. The Power of Forgiveness (Col. 3:13 - 14)

- A. “Bearing” (anecho) with each other - Acknowledging others weaknesses
- B. “Forgiving” (charizomai) one another - Releasing the debt from the past
- C. “Grievances” (momphe) against someone - Blaming with compassion
- D. Our example - “As the Lord forgave us” (Matt. 6:12,14,15; 18:21-35; Lk. 23:34)
- E. Our goal of forgiveness - (Col. 3:14)
 - 1. Put on “love” - agape
 - 2. Moving toward “perfection”
 - 3. Striving for “unity”

III. The Process of Forgiveness

- A. Dress up your heart first (Col. 3:12)
 - 1. Compassion - Experience the pain of others
 - 2. Kindness - Caring about meeting heart needs of others
 - 3. Humility - Don’t forget who we are
 - 4. Meekness - With-holding power on purpose
 - 5. Patience - Understand the long view
- B. Take responsibility for the love to last - commit to the covenant
- C. Express the hurt clearly and honestly “I feel _____ when you _____”
- D. Give ample opportunity for restoration
- E. Release the debt - Renew the covenant