



Forgiven, Forgiving, and Free Study Outline

I. Introduction

Everyone will get _____.

The outcome of our lives is not determined by what _____, but by how we _____ to what happens to us.

II. Two ways of responding to hurt

A. Become a _____.

B. _____ the offender from _____:
_____ --not because they deserve it, but because of God's _____.

III. Forgiveness

A. Forgiveness is not a _____; it is a _____.

B. God _____ us to forgive.

“And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.” (Mark 11:25)

“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4:31, 32)

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” (Colossians 3:12, 13)

How has God forgiven us? (cf. Psalm 103:3, 10-12)

C. To forgive: to carry away, to bury, to cover over, to pardon, to reconcile, to let go of, to send away, to graciously restore.

“God has forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.” (Colossians 2:14)

D. Forgiveness is a _____ never to bring that sin up against the offender again—to God, to him, or to others.

IV. Refusing to forgive

A. We become the _____ of those who have wronged us.

B. God will turn us over to _____.

Matthew 18:21-35

C. We cannot experience God’s _____ and _____ (Matthew 6:15).

D. We give _____ an advantage in our lives (2 Corinthians 2:10, 11).

E. We are troubled and many others are _____ (Hebrews 12:15).

V. How do I respond to those who have wronged me?

A. _____ the people who have wronged you. How have they sinned against you?

(Forgiveness is not pretending it _____ or trying to _____ the _____.)

B. Make sure your conscience is _____. “How have I responded to those individuals?”

Take _____ for your offenses and responses.
Seek their _____ for ways you have sinned against them.

C. Choose to _____ each person who has sinned against you.

1. Forgiveness is not _____; it is _____.

2. Forgiveness releases the offender from my _____ and turns him over to _____.

3. Forgiveness doesn't necessarily mean _____.

4. Forgiveness is not _____; it is _____.

5. Forgiveness can be extended in a _____. Complete healing may involve a _____.

6. Remember that failing to forgive is as _____ as anyone has or ever will commit against you.

D. Return _____ for _____.

“Recompense to no man evil for evil . . . Avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath [leave room for God’s wrath—NIV]: for it is written, Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink . . . Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:17-21)

“But I say unto you, _____ your enemies, _____ them that curse you, _____ to them that hate you, and _____ for them that despitefully use you and persecute you.” (Matthew 5:44)

_____ of love and blessing (Genesis 45:1-13; 50:15-21).

E. In everything, _____ (I Thessalonians 5:18).