

TITLE: Forgiving Like Jesus**1. Forgiveness is COMPLETELY RELEASING THE OFFENSE.**

Luke 17:4–10- Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive.” The apostles said to the Lord, “Show us how to increase our faith.” The Lord answered, “If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘May you be uprooted and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you! “When a servant comes in from plowing or taking care of sheep, does his master say, ‘Come in and eat with me’? No, he says, ‘Prepare my meal, put on your apron, and serve me while I eat. Then you can eat later.’ And does the master thank the servant for doing what he was told to do? Of course not. In the same way, when you obey me you should say, ‘We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty.’ ”

2. According to Jesus, FORGIVENESS is not an OPTION; it’s a COMMAND.**3. Forgiveness is not a FEELING; it’s OBEDIENCE.****4. How to forgive like Jesus:**

- **ABSORB the COST**

- **How Jesus Modeled It: Isaiah 53:5 & Hebrews 9:22b**

Isaiah 53:5 (NLT)-But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins.

Hebrews 9:22b (NLT)-For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.

- **How We Apply It: Colossians 3:13**

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.

- **CANCEL the DEBT**

- **How Jesus Modeled It: Luke 23:34a**

Luke 23:34a (NLT)- Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”



- **How We Apply It: Matthew 18:32–33**

(NLT) 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?’

- **God, I forgive _____ for _____ and release him/her from ever making it right with me again.**

- **CUT the STRINGS**

- **How Jesus Modeled It: Isaiah 43:25**

(NLT) I—yes, I alone—will blot out your sins for my own sake and will never think of them again.

- **How We Apply It: 1 Corinthians 13:5b; Romans 10:9 & 13; & John 3:16**

1 Corinthians 13:5b (NLT) [love] keeps no record of being wronged.

Romans 10:9 & 13 (NLT) If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”

John 3:16 (NIV) For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 1

5. You have a choice: LIVE IN CHAINS or LIVE IN FREEDOM.

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