

Unhindered

Forgiveness - 1/13/19

OVERVIEW

When we, or someone we love, suffer hurt at the hands of another, it's hard to forgive. The natural response is to harbor bitterness, take vengeance, or keep a record of the offense. Scripture tells the tale of an indebted servant that had been fully forgiven but chose not to extend that same forgiveness to others. As a result, he paid a terrible price. Do you struggle with forgiving? What is the key to getting past the hurt and extending grace to others? It's never easy to fully forgive but it is always what is required in order to live unhindered. In this message, you will hear more about the choice to forgive and how you can find freedom when you do.

Scriptures: Matthew 18:23-34; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 4:31-32

APPLICATION

1. Jeremy makes the statement that forgiveness is a choice. Based on your experience, do you agree with that? Why or why not.
2. In the parable from Matthew 18, the man who was forgiven the most had the most difficult time forgiving someone else. What does this parable show about our relationship with God? What does it show about how we are to treat others?
3. Our pain can sometimes get in the way of offering forgiveness to someone else. If we hold onto our pain (instead of forgiving) what does Romans 6:23 say we get in return for our sin? What do we get if we hold onto our pain instead of forgiving?
4. Are you letting unforgiveness keep you from experiencing God's unhindered best? What steps can YOU take to begin to forgive?

HOMEWORK: Write out the statement "I choose to forgive _____," and fill in the blank. Look at that whenever you feel like you're withholding forgiveness. Take time and pray for the person you need to forgive.