

Dr. John Johnson  
June 18-19, 2005

Resentment Made Over (Forgiveness)  
Colossians 3:13

Notes from the Message:

Thinking about forgiveness, we need to ask the question, “What really is forgiveness?” The message explains it in the following four ways:

- The need to see the offense as God sees the offense, not trivializing or exaggerating it.
- The need to see people as God sees people, that is: seeing through the offense to the flawed and broken person made in the image of God.
- The need to see forgiveness as God sees it, involved with grace, a process, a surrender of our “rights,” and as only a beginning in the move to reconciliation.
- The need to see unforgiveness as God sees unforgiveness, as a poison to the soul and as bondage to the past.

Share an offense that ballooned up and became a problem for you in the past. What has been your process forward on it?

What does it take for a person to “let go” of an offense against them?

We have talked about forgiveness relating to our “feelings,” but how can it become more than a feeling even a continual attitude in a person? Hebrews 12:15. Said another way, what does it mean for you to “live in forgiveness” with your friends, relatives, neighbors, life group members, or work associates?

Pastor John spoke of churches that seemed to be unforgiving. How can we as a church relate the feeling of a grace-filled body rather than the feeling of a body still focused on unforgiveness?