



Winning
the
Bitterness Battle

Hebrews 12:14-17

Fine Art of Forgiveness

- Ephesians 4:32 - *“And be kind to one another, forgiving one another, tenderhearted, even as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven you.”*
- Forgive = to freely and favorably grant a full pardon.

A Couple of Forgiveness Facts

- 1. The first biblical reference to forgiveness?
- Genesis 50:17 - Joseph & brothers
- Joseph is an O.T. picture of a N.T. Savior.
- God's people needed a Savior!

A Couple of Forgiveness Facts

- 2. If we do not forgive others, God will not forgive us.
- - Matthew 6
- - Luke 6:37 & 38
- If you want to be forgiven, You have to be a forgiver!

From Matthew 18:21-35...

In order to forgive completely...

- 1. Forgive Continually - vs. 21,22
- 2. Forgive Correctly - vs. 24 & 27
- 3. Forgive Compassionately - vs. 27
- 4. Forgive Collectively - full pardon

Key Thought for Tonight

Forgiveness is the cornerstone of all healthy, long term relationships.

Without it, all relationships will inevitably crumble and the body of Christ becomes dysfunctional & defeated.