

happiness is...



Pastor Paul Chappell
Sunday, November 10

TITLE: Happiness Is Forgiving Others

“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.” (Colossians 3:12-13)

INTRODUCTION

“I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, ¹⁹ And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. ²⁰ And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. ²² But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: ²³ And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. ²⁵ Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. ²⁸ And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. ²⁹ And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: ³⁰ But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. ³¹ And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.” (Luke 15:18-31)

Quote: “Sin is pure unhappiness, forgiveness pure happiness.”

—Martin Luther

1. _____ with God

A. Our _____ from God

WE WERE SEPARATED FROM GOD

*“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
(Romans 3:23)*

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: ² By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” (Romans 5:1-2)

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. ¹⁰ For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.” (Romans 5:8-10)

B. Our _____ in God

*“And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.”
(Romans 5:11)*

Quote: “The child of God is, from necessity, a joyful man. His sins are forgiven, his soul is justified, his person is adopted, his trials are blessings, his conflicts are victories, his death is immortality, his future is a heaven of inconceivable, unthought-of, untold, and endless blessedness—with such a God, such a Saviour, and such a hope, is he not, ought he not, to be a joyful man?”—**Octavius Winslow**, a Baptist pastor (1808-1878)

2. _____ with Others

A. _____

GOD’S FORBEARANCE OF SINNERS

“Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;” (Romans 3:25)

“He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.” (Psalm 103:10-11)

OUR FORBEARANCE WITH OTHERS

Quote: “Mercy is forbearance to inflict harm under circumstances of provocation, when one has the power to inflict it.”—**Daniel Webster**

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. ² Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:1-2)

Quote: “We are either score keepers or grace givers!”

Quote: “Anger may be handled wrongly in either one of two ways: blowing up and clamming up.”—**Jay E. Adams**

B. _____

PARDON

LET GO

THE EFFECTS OF A NON-FORGIVING HEART

1. Bring anger and bitterness into every relationship and new experience
2. Become so wrapped up in the wrong that you can’t enjoy the present
3. Become depressed or anxious
4. Feel that your life lacks meaning or purpose, or that your faith is failing
5. Lose valuable and enriching connectedness with others

Quote: “Forgiveness is me giving up my right to hurt you for hurting me.”

*“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”
(Ephesians 4:32)*

Quote: “To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.”

3. The _____ of Christ

A. Follow Christ’s _____

*“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:”
(1 Peter 2:21)*

“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.” (Psalm 103:120)

“And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying, ¹⁷ So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him. ²⁰ But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.” (Genesis 50:16, 17, 20)

B. Live Christ’s _____

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” (James 1:22)

CONCLUSION _____

