

RENOVATE: THIS YEAR I MEAN IT

Week 2: Letting It Go: Embracing Forgiveness

INTRODUCTION:

- A. One of the more difficult things to do in life is to embrace forgiveness.
- B. Forgiveness is commanded (Col. 3:12-13) and helps to free us of the pain and agony left from an unforgiving heart.
- C. Maybe this morning, one of the renovations we need to make is to embrace forgiveness.

FORGIVING OTHERS: Matthew 18:21-35

- A. Forgiveness should never come with limits (18: 21-22).
- B. Forgiveness is not forgetting what happened but choosing to let it go (18:23-27).
- C. Forgiveness is something we are quick to seek but slow to grant (18:28-30).
- D. Forgiveness of others results in forgiveness from God (18:31-35)

FORGIVING YOURSELF: I Cor. 15:9-10

- A. Paul was a known persecutor of Christians (Acts 8:1-3; 9:1-5).
- B. If Paul could move on from who he was, then we should be able to move on as well.
- C. We need to stop wasting valuable time dwelling on our past (Phil. 3:13-14).
- D. If God can forgive us of our past, then we should be able to forgive ourselves (Col. 2:11-14; Psa. 103:12).

CONCLUSION:

- A. "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy" (Matt. 5:7).
- B. Is forgiving someone who has hurt us or maybe even forgiving ourselves for some of the things we have done, a renovation we need to make in our lives this year?
- C. Forgiveness doesn't change the past, but it does change the future.