

“Forgiven to Forgive”

Col. 3:12-15

Introduction

- I. When we become Christians, there are certain responsibilities that we must fulfill.
- II. One of those responsibilities is to be forgiving to others.

Discussion

- I. One of the greatest blessings that a Christian enjoys is forgiveness (1 John 1:7-9).
 - A. Reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:17-21).
 - B. Saved (Rom. 5:8-9).
 - C. Redeemed (Eph. 1:7).
- II. Christians must be forgiving to others (Col. 3:12-15).
 - A. Our fellow Christians (Eph. 4:32).
 - B. Even those in the world (Mark 11:25).
 - C. Our willingness to forgive is vital to our faithfulness (Matt. 6:14-15).
 - D. Forgiveness should always be extended to the penitent (Matt. 18:21-22; Luke 17:3-4; cf. 1 Cor. 5:1ff and 2 Cor. 2:1-11).
 - E. Jesus is our Example in regard to forgiveness (Mark 2:1-11; John 8:1-12; Luke 23:42-43).
- III. What are the consequences of being unforgiving?
 - A. We don't receive forgiveness (Matt. 6:14-15).
 - B. We can be instrumental in keeping a soul from being made right with God (Gal. 6:1; James 5:19-20; Jude 23).

Conclusion

- I. Forgiveness is a tremendous blessing of being a Christian.
- II. Let us strive to forgive others and let them enjoy the blessing of forgiveness too.