
About Forgiveness

Posted by Tara - 2006/09/20 16:05

Are you a forgiving person or do you have challenges when it comes to forgiveness?

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Re:About Forgiveness

Posted by wish - 2006/09/20 16:51

Think i am a forgiving person but it is a challenge to not hold a grudge.

Post edited by: wish, at: 2006/09/20 16:51

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Re:About Forgiveness

Posted by 1putter - 2006/09/20 16:54

:) I like to think of myself as a forgiving person but then I never had anything HUGE to forgive someone for. I think it would be a HUGE challenge for me to forgive someone who harmed a family member, (or murdered one), especially if it were a child.

The day to day stuff and things that people do in relationships I can let go pretty easily, (even outward insults) but harming a loved one would be a real test for me.

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Re:About Forgiveness

Posted by Debby - 2006/09/20 17:34

I am usually not one to hold a grudge. I think holding on to resentment sucks up you energy, however, sometimes I have told someone that I forgave them but really didn't.

My mother once asked me to forgive her and my dad for some things that happened when I was growing up. I said sure, but, I don't think I really did, because years later I found myself bringing up the issue when discussing it with friends or just feeling sorry for myself. No, they didn't physically abuse me and I suspect that if you asked my mother about it now, she would have no idea I still harbor those feelings. I have had a really good relationship with my parents for years. I think I have more work to do with this issue.

I used to think about the matter when watching SO. Forgiveness was such a big topic on that show. I think we are all not so different with regard to forgiveness.

When it comes to friends or lovers, I just let it go. I try to treat people the way I want to be treated but sometimes other people treat you like crap and don't seem to give it a second thought. I say, move on and don't let them see me sweat.

I know sometimes I have had to hurt others when ending a relationship that wasn't working out. I want those people to forgive me, so I try to put the same forgiveness to those I think did me dirty.

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Re:About Forgiveness

Posted by michelle jisa - 2006/09/20 18:22

On the subject of forgiveness this is what I believe. God loves us soooo much that He sent His only Son to die on the cross for each and every one of us so that there would be a way for us to ask for forgiveness and for Him to show His forgiveness towards us. Therefore if God Himself can show that kind of love and mercy toward us, then where do we have the right to say that we can't show forgiveness towards someone else. In the Bible God said that if we can't show forgiveness towards our brother, then He will not show forgiveness towards us. Things happen that are out of our control and we have to be able to deal with it and move on. Forgiveness is to accept that what happened can't be changed and

we just need to move on, don't hold a grudge. Besides, in the grand scheme of things, is it really that BIG of a deal. Really the only thing that would be considered really, really serious would be the loss of life. Yes that would be a huge thing, but even then there still can be forgiveness. The Devil is out there wreaking havoc on us and we have to keep that in mind. Evil exists and it reared it's enormously ugly head on 9/11 and any other time when life was lost. As a matter of fact it shows up every day in every abortion clinic around the world(at least 50 million times over). It's here and it's been here since the beginning of time. We all just need to be aware of it and don't let it rule our lives.

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Re:About Forgiveness

Posted by grizzlys4 - 2006/09/20 18:24

I really feel like forgiveness is different than holding a grudge too. For me to forgive someone.....in the definition of it means that person needs to have acknowledged and been sorry about what they did. No.....I don't mean groveling and begging and that stuff. But my siblings and I were abused and neglected by my folks and I've been so tired of their attitude about the past being the past or that nobody really remembers what happened, so just talk about the now. Which, ironically, is no better!!!! :S :S

I think the petty things I just let go so I don't get ulcers!! ;) But the behaviors that are abusive and the ones that still play the mind games and manipulate we have just cut ties so that the unhealthiness doesn't stay a part of us.

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Re:About Forgiveness

Posted by KPW1956 - 2006/09/20 20:11

I do think some things are harder to grant forgiveness for... It doesn't mean you have to forget the wrong that was done...but you can choose to forgive.

I grew up in a dysfunctional home...and I have plenty of gripes about how things were... My parents are much better grandparents than they ever were parents. But I love them and forgive them because I know they really didn't have the parenting skills they should or could have. Both grew up in difficult situations themselves. I do find myself feeling resentful once in awhile and it bothers me that some of those thoughts even enter my brain!

Sometimes Forgiving/forgiveness is a blessing and a gift you give yourself.. Letting go of anger and bad feelings benefits both parties. I am speaking more to one time incidents and not repeated offenses where trust is irrevocably lost.

Anger and resentment can create stress... and spill over to healthy relationships, work and even affect rational thinking!

I think we all have times when it can be harder than usual...

I will usually be more than willing to forgive if the other person is able to appreciate and acknowledge the issue and offers a sincere apology.

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Re:About Forgiveness

Posted by mazzy - 2006/09/20 23:51

I am generally a forgiving person, but I have learned that I need time. I know negative... no good feelings are harmful to me, and I have learned it's good for me to let them go. Sometimes it's easier said than done... LOL

Sometimes I need to turn those feelings over to God in order to let them go... sometimes I need to keep turning them over because sometimes the negative feelings just keep coming back. It can be an exhausting process... LOL

I have learned that when I truly forgive... it can be the greatest gift to myself... although at the time I think it is for the person I am forgiving... because you see it comes back to me.

I remember hearing a woman on a news program talk about forgiving the killer who brutally killed her husband... at first I

could not understand how she would be able to forgive something of that magnitude, but then I realized she loved herself too much not to forgive this killer. The hate, the anger, the fury... all those negative feelings would eat her up... so yes she was able to forgive the killer because she loved herself too much not to. I will never forget this story.

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Re>About Forgiveness

Posted by Nadia - 2006/09/28 10:37

Mazzy wrote:

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great story Mazzy!

Truly extraordinary lady to forgive a person that killed her husband that she had shared her life with. I personally don't think I could ever forgive someone that killed someone I dearly love.

This doesn't mean that I don't love myself any less.

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Re>About Forgiveness

Posted by TigerRose - 2006/10/04 10:07

mazzy wrote:

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This is going on now with the Amish in Lancaster. Their prayers aren't just themselves but also the killers family. It has been mentioned that some of the victims' families are planning to go to the killer's family and offer their prayers and support. They see the killer's family as suffering as well(I believe this too). No anger at the killer either... they grieve, they feel a strong sense of loss ...but no anger. I remember when the children were accidently ran over by a car years ago and how the Amish went to the driver and forgave him and prayed for him. I've always been impressed with how deeply they feel about it.

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Re>About Forgiveness

Posted by happytrails_200618 - 2006/10/04 17:28

I see things this way, God loved us so much that he gave his only son to die on that old rugged cross so we could be forgiven of all our sins. If Jesus can do something so huge bigger than words can ever say, then we should forgive anything because no matter what it is it will never be as big as the sacrifice that Jesus made. I try to forgive people no matter what they may do to me, I mean if I can forgive my mom and dad for abandonment then I can forgive anyone for anything. I mean yeah it hurts that they would do that to me and all the things they did over the years, but I still forgive and love them I always will. Not just because their my parents, but because I want to and I know it's what God want me to do. We should all forgive everyone no matter what they do to us, I know how it is to loose a loved one and even harder than usual by watching that loved one pass away. Although that guy did kill innocent children and then took his own life, God still loved him no matter what. I know the pain the families are going through is tremendous, but those loved ones are all better off than any of us are. The families need to realize one thing though, God is not the one who causes us pain and all these bad things but satan does. It was a work of evil he took over this man and revenge that is never the answer. Something that happend over 20 years ago can not be changed, but just pray for all those who were effected by this. Even the family of the shooter, for they didn't know he had been planning it. Another thing is there's no need to worry about those who were lost because their already in a better place. just pray for the families. I know that may seem werid comming from a 19 year old, but hey it's how I see things anyways and we're all intitled to our own opnion. Yeah I could go out and hurt or do something to those who hurt me we all could, but instead we forgive. Now I know the old saying

forgive and forget, well let me tell you how I see it. Yeah we forgive but no we don't always forget and you know what that's ok. God knows our hearts and will always forgive everyone, as I try my best to do. Yeah some things take longer than others but always, always forgive. You never know what the last thing you say to someone will be, I wish many times that I could see my uncle once more just to say I love you. The last time I saw him was in hospital bed in the ccu and I had to say goodbye until God comes back, but I'll be with him again one day. Thanks for your time and reading all of this, hopefully you didn't fall asleep on me lol. Try to stay happy I know it's hard but hey God loves us all.

Take care and God Bless everyone,
Sue :)

Re: About Forgiveness

Posted by Nadia - 2006/10/09 16:10

About forgiveness

Do you forgive those responsible for the September 11th WTC tragedy?

Re: About Forgiveness

Posted by Debby - 2006/10/09 16:35

Nadia, I can't speak for others as to whom deserves forgiveness, but, I heard a comment recently on tv that really hit home with me. It might have been on Oprah or Dr. Phil, I can't recall. What they said is that the reason forgiveness is beneficial to the one GIVING the forgiveness is that it takes away the need to play the incident over and over in your mind.

When I heard that, I applied it to my life and find it to be true. Whenever I thought about how I was wronged and hurt and how responsible someone else was for doing it, I replayed the incident(s) over and over in my mind. By doing this, I have head, your subconscious doesn't even know that the incident occurred years ago, so it stays fresh on the heart and the pain stays fresh too.

If I truly don't want relive the heartbreak over and over, it's better for me to forgive, so I have no reason to keep going over and over the details in effect, punishing myself more than the wrongdoer.

Re: About Forgiveness

Posted by mazzy - 2006/10/09 18:56

Nadia wrote:
About forgiveness

Do you forgive those responsible for the September 11th WTC tragedy?

NO... I don't.

Re: About Forgiveness

Posted by grizzlys4 - 2006/10/09 22:50

mazzy wrote:
Nadia wrote:
About forgiveness

Do you forgive those responsible for the September 11th WTC tragedy?

NO... I don't.

I don't either.....and I do define forgiveness as different from re-living events over and over. But that's my own personal belief. I believe that as to their eternal status.....that's not my place to judge. BUT.....as to whether the act was so heinous, and....well....unforgiveable.....I personally do judge as to whether I can forgive that act or not. Of course, to me, forgiveness is also something I may or may not give based on the continued actions of others. As they proceed to commit the same acts and/or justify their past acts and feel no sorrow or remorse, then there isn't anything to forgive. I realize this is just the way I feel about it, and I have no issues with those who forgive in other ways. It's something that definitely each of us need to do in the way that does benefit us emotionally and physically and spiritually the best!!

Re: About Forgiveness

Posted by mazzy - 2006/10/10 05:39

grizzlys4 wrote:
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About forgiveness

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Grizz... you said it best...

"It's something that definitely each of us need to do in the way that does benefit us emotionally and physically and spiritually."

Re: About Forgiveness

Posted by Serena - 2006/10/11 08:00

I forgive in order to save myself from the poison of resentment. Then I don't have to play that tape in my head (or worse yet, in my gut). But I remember in order to not have to forgive that same transgression again later. If it was bad enough that I have to forgive it, it was bad enough that I don't need a replay.

I forgive the 911 criminals. They are monumentally fouled up as human beings. But I haven't forgotten, because I know they are monumentally fouled up human beings. Because I remember, I'd pull the trigger. And then I'd have to just hope their families could forgive me...But I think I could live with it ok if they didn't.

That forgiveness thing seems a whole lot like the love thing. You can choose who to forgive, but you can't choose who will forgive you back.

Re: About Forgiveness

Posted by Nadia - 2006/10/19 21:05

Grizz you did say it best!
:)

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Re>About Forgiveness

Posted by mistyblu - 2006/11/18 01:38

Forgive...a word that my husband and I completely disagree on what it means or how one does that.

I thought God wants us to forgive a person so we can get on with our lives and be a complete whole person that he wants us to be. A state of mind with ourself and has nothing to do with the person we are forgiving.

Horrendous things like murders is different because of the process of grief and all that is involved in that process before even reaching a "thought" of forgiveness.

If a evil person robs me of one life shall we let him rob me of two--myself? In horrendous things can I humanly forgive? How about I give it to God and let Him carry that for me--I can't.

My husband thinks one forgives by taking all the evil another dishes out. And I think he is just "full of it!"

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Re>About Forgiveness

Posted by KPW1956 - 2006/11/18 12:48

Mistyblu,

I think along the same lines as you do...

That forgiveness is as much, if not more for the giver as it is the receiver. Otherwise it can eat you alive..

Fortunately I haven't been in a place where I really had to forgive some egregious sin... I'd like to think I could move past it.. I know they'll get theirs eventually... even if I were unable to forgive in the fullest sense of the word.

Sometimes getting past little grudges can be obstacles! Or sins perceived against others, where I'm not even involved. Just hard to embrace people who don't acknowledge their own wrong doing.

Definitely doesn't mean being a doormat!

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