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Daily Devotional - Forgiving Hurts We Don't Deserve

MAY 24TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Colossians 3:12-14

It is truly amazing how some people attempt to justify an angry, unforgiving heart. They may think, *God knows what that person did to me, so He understands why I feel this way.* Well, He certainly understands, but that doesn't mean He approves.

Jesus faced appalling betrayal and abandonment, so He knows human emotions inside and out. Yet the Lord does not agree that we should feel justified about an unforgiving attitude. The Savior had a God-centered view of forgiveness that withstood the vilest torture. This is something we should thank God for every morning. Why? Because we are the ones who betray the Lord daily.

We have wronged Jesus in ways no one has ever wronged us. We've denied Him His rightful place in our lives. We have doubted His Word, ignored His instructions, and left Him out of our day-to-day lives. We've sinned against Him and shamed Him by sinning against others.

What is Jesus' response to this abuse? "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest" ([Matthew 11:28](#)). Now, do you really believe He will justify your unforgiveness under any circumstances? No, He won't.

When you look to God to excuse your unforgiving heart, you'll hear Him answer, "Look at the cross." There, you'll discover the price that was paid for your own forgiveness. [Colossians 3:13](#) spells out our solemn responsibility: "Forgive as the Lord forgave you" (NIV, emphasis added). Just as we have been *forgiven*, so we must now become *forgivers*.

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