

Luke 7:41-42

This is the principle we use when we study grace. We have been given so much forgiveness we should have some to give out. We are to be conduits of grace to a grace-starved world.

Let's ask and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal and heal whatever is keeping us from being a forgiving people.

Start with the understanding that God has the means to forgive us. He wants to. We just need to claim it.

5) Do you believe this?

That is the easy part. Now the next thing is how do we apply this understanding as a conduit to the world and to ourselves?

6) What are the benefits of unforgiveness? (briefly)

The text says, "when you stand praying". It is almost like it is expected that the Holy Spirit will bring to remembrance what will stand in the way of our prayers.

I don't know that this is always correct. Sometimes it is so deeply ingrained we do not think about it..... Besides that,

- Sometimes the wounds are too fresh.
- Maybe the offense is continuing to this moment.
- Maybe we are often reminded of it.
- Maybe the offense has become a part of our identity.

James 5:16-18 'Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.'

I believe that as we pray, we can find healing. I also believe my prayers are effective. The concept is that even after a long period of unforgiveness, we can receive healing.

7) Do you believe you can find healing for your heart?

Let's un-hinder our prayers and our hearts.

Let's pray.