



FORGIVENESS IN MARRIAGE

Session #3

A. INTRODUCTION

Gary Thomas

"I believe one of marriage's primary purposes is to teach us how to forgive."

Gary Thomas

"The absence of conflict demonstrates that either the relationship isn't important enough to fight over or that both individuals are too insecure to risk disagreement."

Colossians 3:12-15

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

B. FORGIVENESS IN MARRIAGE DEMONSTRATES THE GOSPEL

John Stott

"To live under the cross means that every aspect of the Christian community's life is shaped and coloured by it. To forgive and to ask for forgiveness are both costly exercises. All authentic Christian peace making exhibits the love and justice – and so the pain- of the cross."

D.A. Carson

"No matter how much wretched evil has been done against us, it is little compared with the offense we have thrown in the face of God. Yet God in Christ has forgiven us. If we know anything of the release of this forgiveness, if we have glimpsed anything of the magnitude of the debt we owe to God, our forgiveness of others will not seem to be such a leap."

C. FORGIVENESS IN MARRIAGE IS FUELED BY MERCY

- Luke 6:36

1. Mercy in Kindness

Dave Harvey

“Kindness is applied compassion in thought, word and deed.”

2. Mercy in Covering

- Proverbs 19:11
- 1 Peter 4 verse 8

3. Mercy for Weakness

- James 2:13

D. FORGIVENESS IN MARRIAGE IS PATTERNED BY GOD

1. God’s disposition towards forgiveness.

- Psalm 86:5

2. God forgives immediately.

- 2 Peter 3:9

3. God forgives completely.

- 1 John 1:9

4. God forgives repeatedly.

- Matthew 18:21

5. God does not remember.

- Jeremiah 31:4

Donald Whitney

“One of the marks of growing Spirituality in a Christian is that he or she is becoming a ‘quicker forgiver.’”