

I Will Never Forgive Them

A “never forgive them” mindset feels justified when you’ve been deeply hurt—betrayed, falsely accused, rejected, or misunderstood. It says, “They don’t deserve forgiveness.” But forgiveness in the kingdom is not based on what someone deserves—it’s based on what you’ve received. God didn’t forgive you because you earned it; He forgave you because of His mercy and grace. When we refuse to forgive, we are not protecting ourselves—we are holding onto something Christ already paid to remove.

Hebrews 10:17 reveals God’s heart clearly: “Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” God made a deliberate decision to not hold your past against you. He doesn’t rehearse your failures, bring them back up, or treat you according to your mistakes. This is the model of forgiveness we’ve been given. Forgiveness is not forgetting in the natural—it’s choosing not to hold something against someone anymore.

Think about someone who has been betrayed like Joseph (Gen. 37), sold by his own brothers, falsely accused like Joseph again (Gen. 39), or denied like Jesus Christ was by Peter (Luke 22:61). Each of these situations carried real pain and real injustice. Yet the power of forgiveness is not found in minimizing the hurt—it’s found in releasing the right to hold onto it. Joseph didn’t deny what happened; he chose to see God’s hand beyond it (Gen. 50:20).

Unforgiveness keeps you tied to the offense, replaying it, reliving it, and allowing it to shape your identity. It becomes a prison of the soul. But forgiveness breaks that cycle. It says, “I release this, not because it was right, but because I am free.” Scripture tells us to forgive as we have been forgiven (Eph. 4:32). That means our forgiveness toward others flows from the revelation of how completely we’ve been forgiven by God.

The truth is, forgiveness is not about them—it’s about you walking in freedom. When you choose to forgive, you align your heart with God’s nature. You come out of agreement with offense and step into peace. You may have been betrayed, hurt, or accused, but that does not have to define you. When you release others, you release yourself. And this is where healing begins—not just in your heart, but in every area of your life.