FORGIVENESS

Most know that we are to offer forgiveness because we have been forgiven.
Ephesians 4:32, Matthew 6:14, Colossians 3:13, Mark 11:25

What forgiveness is and what it is not.

Forgiveness is a decision, and an act of our will, to be obedient to the Lord.
Forgiveness releases us and the offender.
Forgiveness removes the power from the offense.
Forgiveness offers freedoms and removes the stress of carrying the burden.

Forgiveness does not mean:

That you will not feel emotions such as righteous angry
That you are required to forget the offense.
That it makes the offense alright or okay.
That it dismisses, minimizes, or nullifies what has happened to you.
That it removes the natural consequences.
That you must be reconciled. (Some offenses it would be dangerous to do so)

We are to release the offense to the Lord without any expectations on the part of the offender. If we look to the offender for renewal, restitution, or compensation, we will only be wounded more. Those who have hurt us (most often) cannot repay what was taken. The “hole” in our hearts can only be restored through truth and by the presence of Christ. Any positive response by the offender is a bonus but NOT to be expected.

Forgiveness is to set a prisoner free and then to discover that prisoner was you.

Blessings to you,

Sondra

Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B08L4KLKT2
D2D e-book full series https://books2read.com/rl/Wjmbd