April 9, 2017

ONE ANOTHERING – PART 9 FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER

Ephesians 4:31-32 / Colossians 3:12-13

Rocky Purvis, Senior Pastor

Ephesians 4:31-32 Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Colossians 3:12-13 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.

Whenever we are hurt by someone, we must make a choice: Will we <u>fume</u> or will we <u>forgive</u>.

Forgiveness does not mean...

- We ignore a wrong.
- We no longer desire <u>justice</u>.
- We forget the wrong.
- Reconciliation has occurred or ever will.

Biblical forgiveness is the decision to release someone from the <u>debt</u> they owe and the <u>blame</u> they deserve.

- Forgiveness is a choice.
- Forgiveness is <u>unconditional</u>.

Jesus showed us how to forgive!

If <u>you</u> cannot forgive, it may be because you have never truly experienced God's forgiveness.