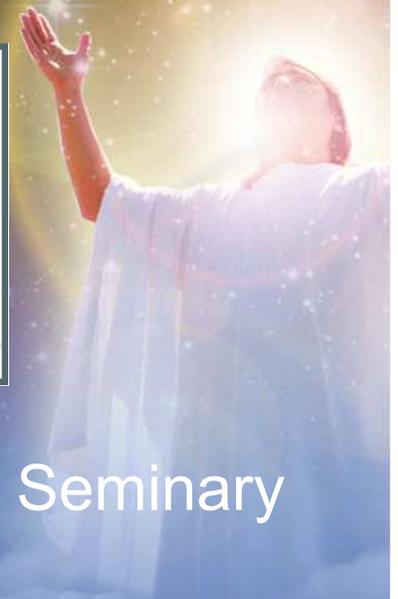




OMEGA

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Newsletter of Omega Bible Institute & Seminary

May/June 2016



FORGIVENESS IS THE KEY TO HAPPINESS

- By Dr. Henry Harbuck/
Omega President & Int'l
Overseer



We often defend our reasons to hold grudges and thus fortify our reason to not forgive others who have hurt or offended us. But there are steps we may take that will set us free so we may become normal and productive for the reason of the Kingdom of God.

The Bible tells us anger and *unforgiveness* are destructive because these traits steal our energy to love and thus we become unfruitful [that is, unproductive for the sake of the Kingdom of God]. Even psychologists agree with what the Bible says, and this too strengthens the idea that forgiving someone who has offended us will set us free. Sometimes one may prefer to hold on to *unforgiveness* (anger, resentment) because it takes too much time and soul-searching to rid oneself of it. When an angry person continues to dwell on how he/she was hurt and betrayed, he/she becomes consumed day and night with it until it becomes an obsession. The very thought of getting rid of

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Article continued...

unforgiveness and moving on to the level of forgiveness terrifies most people. The process becomes unfamiliar territory. But when we feel offended, we must hold fast and follow the words of the apostle Paul who penned Ephesians 4:32: “You must forgive each other, just as God forgave you.” So as Christians we are commanded to forgive, though we may feel we should not.

If you are harboring *unforgiveness* in your heart and feel the offender does not deserve forgiveness, it doesn't change the fact that you must forgive. This *unforgiveness* will make you a loser, not a winner. Sometimes, the one who is harboring *unforgiveness* may be guilty of offending others as well. They never seriously consider the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:3: “Why [do you] look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank, in your own [eye]?” (Matt. 7:3 NIV- New International Version; brackets were added by the author of this article). Now consider this: a.) If you forgive the one who has offended you, you are free to reach new horizons spiritually. b.) The one who has hurt (offended) you is no longer able to hurt you, because you have made a decision to break the chain of unforgiveness (resentment) that has bound you. c.) If you are consumed with *unforgiveness*, you are a prisoner—you are allowing Satan to control you. d.) When the chains of *unforgiveness* are broken, you are free to heal and to love again. Even those around you will feel happier when in your presence. e.) Being set free from *unforgiveness* will make you healthier and happier. Current medical data prove that many who contract diseases, have harbored resentment and *unforgiveness* in their hearts toward one or more persons for many years.

Last, those who decide to take the arduous steps to be free of *unforgiveness* become more productive and happier

because they are at peace with the offender and with God. We, as believers and servants of Christ must always rely on love and forgiveness to free ourselves from the bondage of *unforgiveness* (resentment), remembering the Scripture says: “We love [others] because *Jesus* first loved us.” (I John 4:19 – NMIB – New Millennia In-Depth Bible)

*In celebration of Mother's Day
(May 8th) & Father's Day
(June 19th), we from Omega
Office give thanks to all those
who set godly examples for the
coming generation.*

Happy Memorial Day!

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*For yourselves know perfectly
that the day of the Lord so cometh as a
thief in the night.*

– I Thes. 5:2



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