

Rebuilding *for* God's People

*A Study of Nehemiah
and 2 Corinthians*



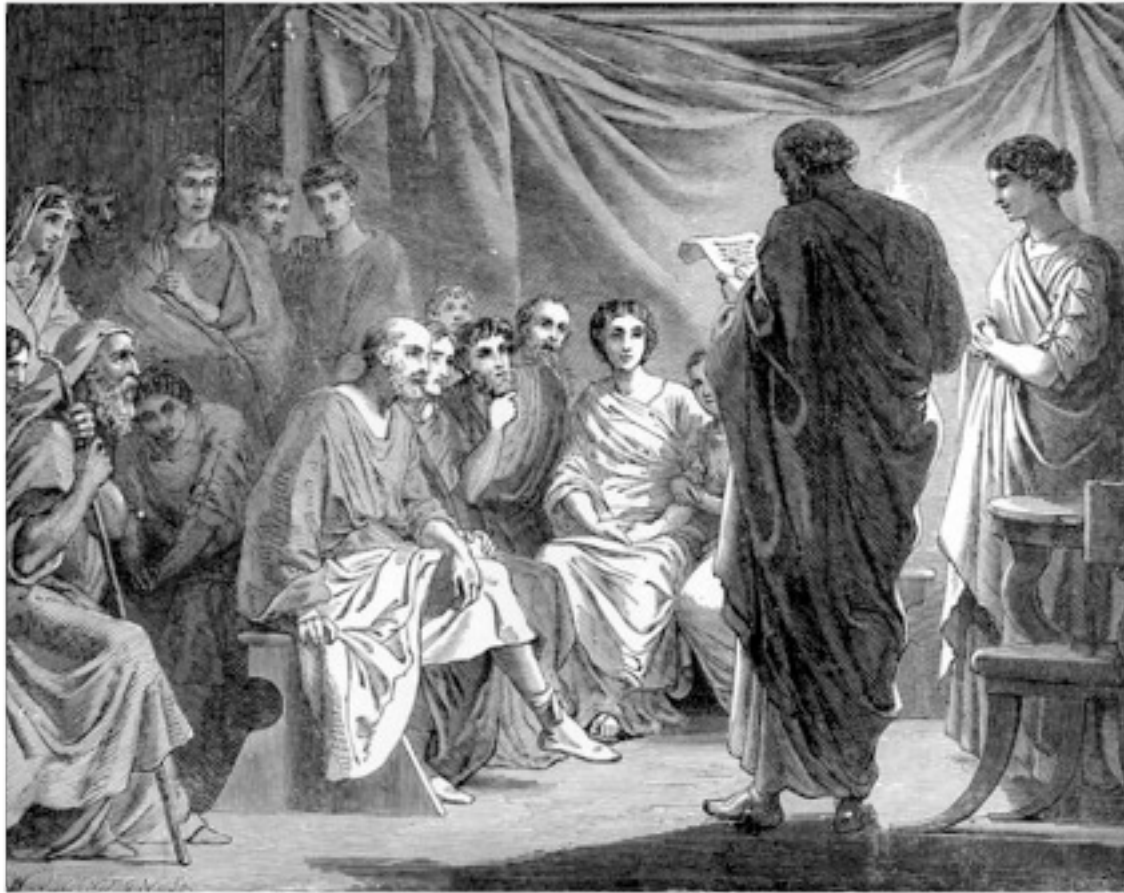
Lesson 12



Therefore if anyone is in Christ
he is a new creation.
The old has gone,
The new has come!
2 Corinthians 5:17



Reading a Letter From Paul in an early house church



Forgiveness

2 Cor 2:5-11

Forgiveness Received

Forgiveness Given

Forgiveness Needed



“If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you, to some extent--not to put it too severely.” *2 Cor 2:5*

Paul...

Shows compassion for the person at fault

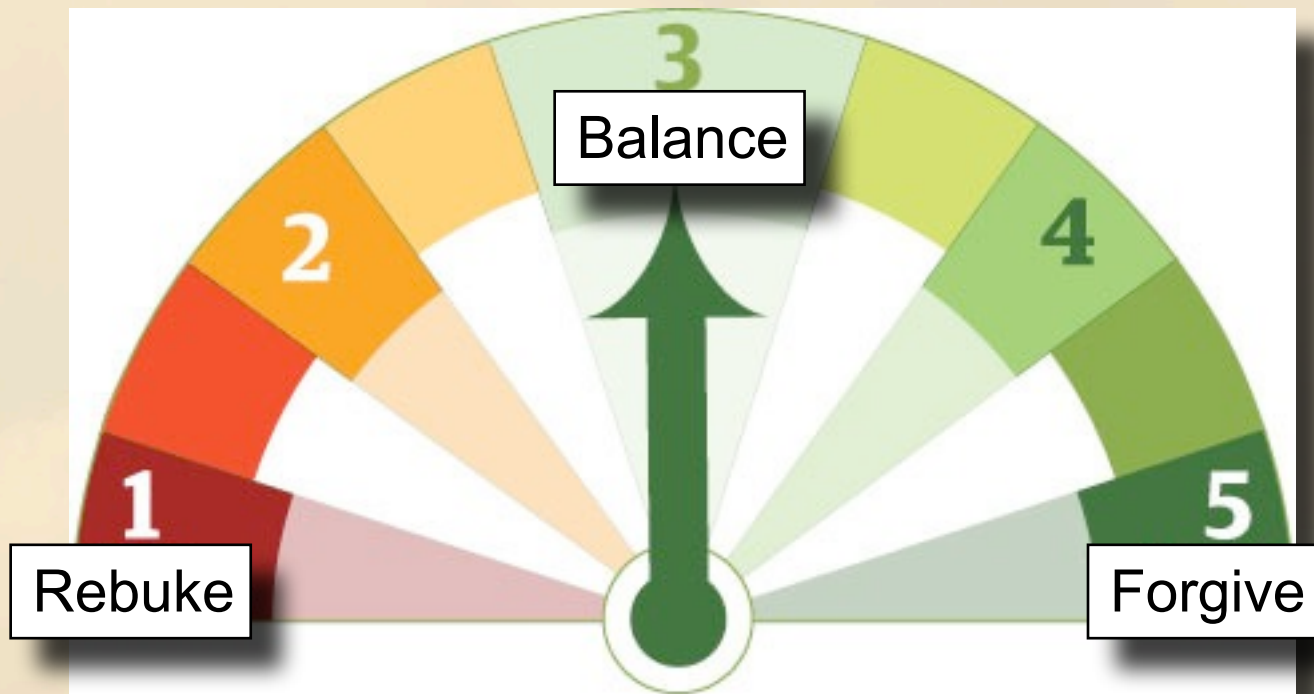
Puts others first (J-O-Y)

Seeks to preserve unity in the church



“The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient for him.” 2 Cor 2:6

Balance between rebuking and forgiving



"If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him." *Luke 17:3-4*

They Sin
We Rebuke
They Repent
We Forgive



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“To live above with saints we love,
will certainly be glory!
To live below with saints we know,
Well, that’s another story.”
~*Anonymous*

“We all agree that forgiveness is a
beautiful idea until we have to
practice it.” ~*C.S. Lewis*



Forgiveness Received

Now instead, you ought to **forgive** and **comfort** him, so that he will not be overwhelmed with excessive sorrow. I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your **love** for him.” *2 Cor 2:6-8*

Forgive (Eph 4:32)

Comfort (2 Cor 1:4)

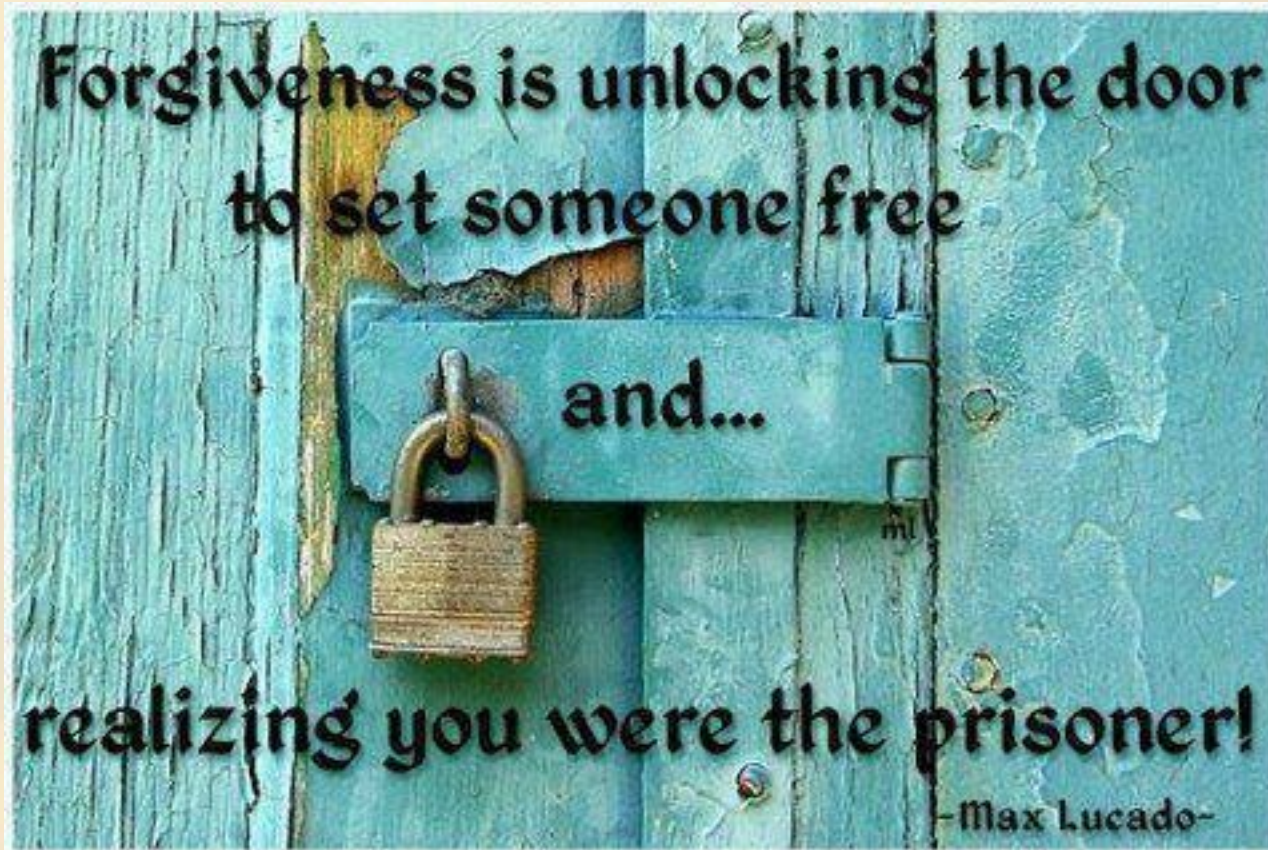
Love (1Jn 4:19)



Forgiveness Received

Forgiveness Given

Forgiveness Given



"Forgiveness is the medicine that helps to heal broken hearts."
~Warren Weirsbe *"Be Encouraged"*

Forgiveness Given

How do we forgive?

Pray for those who have hurt us (Mt 5:44)

Pray for God to change our hearts (Eze 36:26)

Pray for God to release us
from the sin of unforgiveness (Ps 32:5)

Claim Philippians 4:13!

Forgiveness Given

“For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.” *Matthew 6:14-15*



Forgiveness Given

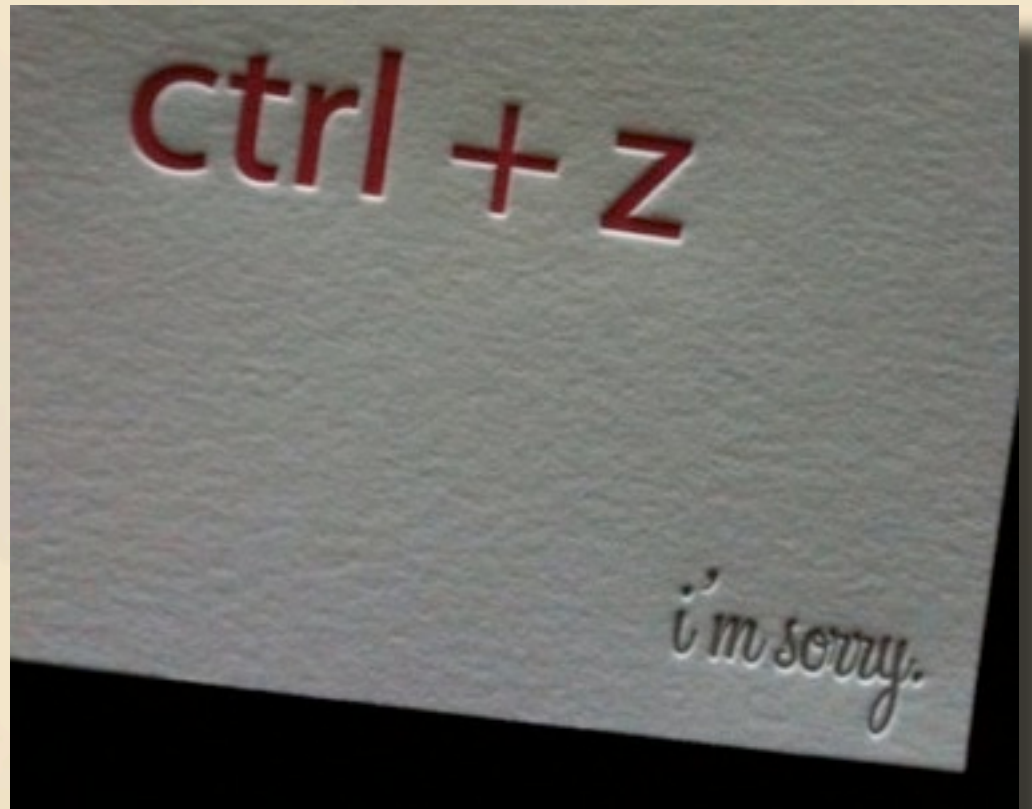
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If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1Jn 1:9

Forgiveness Needed

Do you ever
just wish you
could wipe out
the last thing
you said or
did?



Forgiveness Needed

“Forgiveness has been offered and received, from both sides. But today I realized that in order for me to move forward in a healthy and productive way, I also need to be able to forgive myself. This, it turns out, is the hardest thing to do.”

cindyweighsin.blogspot.com



Forgive
yourself.

Why do we forgive?

“In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.” *2Cor 2:11*

Forgiveness brings unity

Forgiveness builds up individuals

“Satan is powerless before a united community filled with love and humble forgiveness.” *~New American Commentary*

Applying the Lesson in Your Life

How can you let God's forgiveness flow to others?



Do you need to forgive someone?
Do you need to ask for forgiveness?