



BREAK THE BONDAGE OF ANGER

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The Parable of the Angry Servant

Matthew 18:23-35

Three Steps to Break the Bondage of Anger

1. Examine the ROOT of Anger.

Matthew 18:28 "When the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment."

Luke 17:1 "It is impossible that no offenses should come..."

2 Timothy 2:8-9 "Always remember that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. This is the Good News I preach. And because I preach this Good News, I am suffering and have been chained like a criminal. But the word of God cannot be chained."

I'm not a prisoner, I'm a powerhouse.

Philippians 1:12 "And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News."

God won't release NEW OPPORTUNITIES as long as you're holding on to OLD OFFENSES.

Mark 11:25 "When you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too."

2. Understand the RESULTS of Anger.

Matthew 18:34 "The angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt."

Proverbs 26:27 "If you set a trap for others, you will get caught in it yourself. If you roll a boulder down on others, it will crush you instead."

If you don't deal with anger, anger will deal with you.

Proverbs 27:4 "Anger is cruel, and wrath is like a flood."

What doesn't get healed gets handed down.

Hebrews 12:15 "Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many."

Ephesians 4:27 "Anger gives a foothold to the devil."

3. Choose the Righteous RESPONSE to Anger.

Matthew 18:33 "Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?"

Colossians 3:13 "Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others."

Forgiveness means giving to someone else what God has freely given to me.

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."

Name your hurt. Give it to God and let Him heal you.

Psalms 109:22,26 & 31 "For I am poor and needy, and my heart is full of pain. Help me, O Lord my God! Save me because of Your unfailing love. For He stands beside the needy, ready to save them from those who condemn them."

Feelings follow right choices.

Psalm 71:20 "Though You have made Me see troubles, many and bitter, You will restore My life again; from the depths of the earth You will again bring Me up."

Jeremiah 30:17 "'I will give you back your health and heal your wounds,' says the Lord."

Luke 4:18-19 "Jesus said, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, for He has anointed Me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come.'"

A Prayer to Forgive Others

"Dear Lord, I have been hurt by others. I am angry at what others have done to me. I confess to You I have become bitter. Please forgive me and help me forgive all those who have offended me. I release them now by Your grace, and I forgive them. Please heal me, restore me, and fill my heart with Your love and peace. I thank You now by faith, in Jesus' name. Amen."

Signed

Date

Memory Verse: Mark 11:25 "When you are praying, **first** forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too."

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