

The Power of Unforgiveness!

I CAN'T STAY HERE

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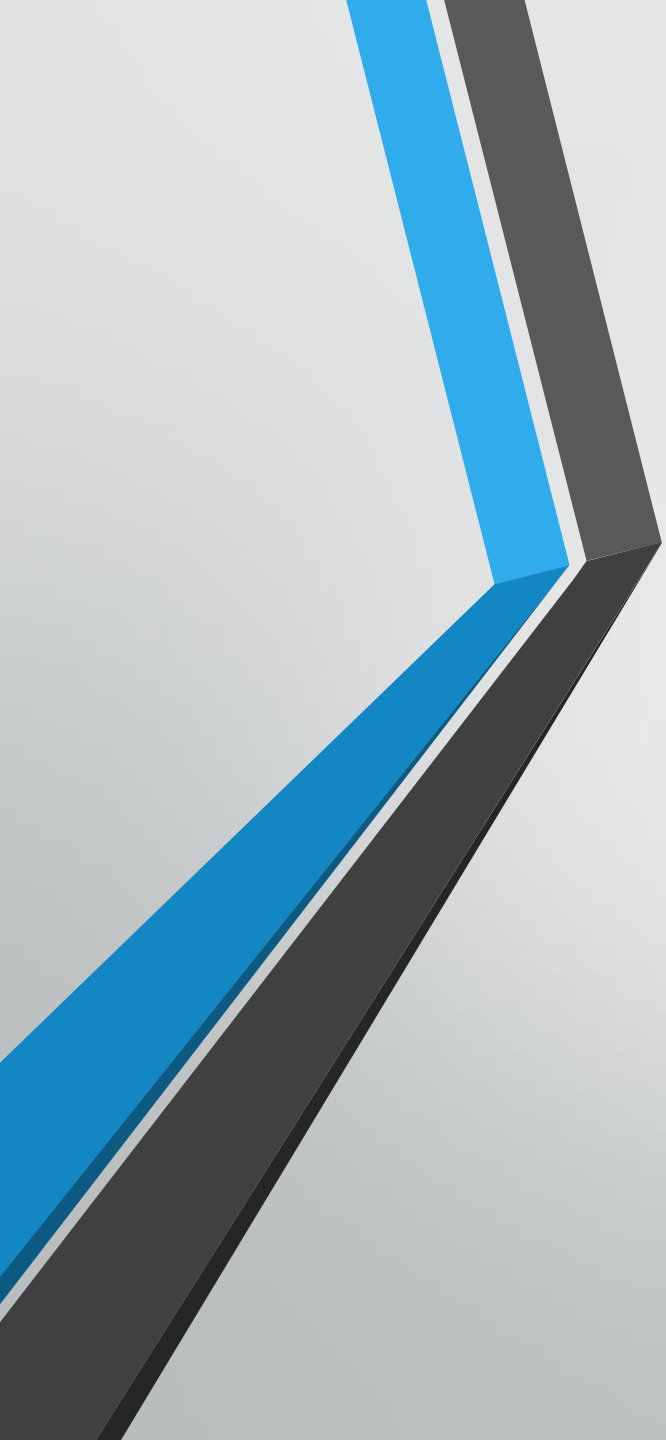
A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of a grid of small circles in various colors (blue, grey, black, white) arranged in a pattern that tapers towards the right.

**THE ROOT OF
UNFORGIVENESS**

**UNDERSTANDING
FORGIVENESS**

Forgiveness Is Not A Suggestion

- **Luke 6:37** Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. Stop criticizing others, or it will all come back on you. *If you forgive others, you will be forgiven.*
- **Colossians 3:13** You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so *you must forgive others.*
- **Mark 11:25** And whenever you stand praying, *forgive, if you have anything against anyone,* so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”



Mark 11:22–25 (NLT) — 22 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have faith in God. 23 I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. 24 I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you’ve received it, it will be yours. 25 But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.”

UNFORGIVENESS GIVES ADVANTAGE TO SATAN

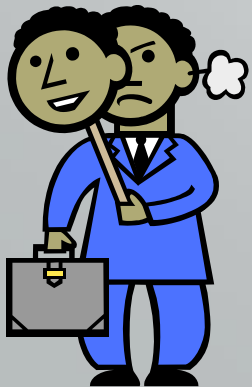
- **2 Corinthians 2:10–11** (NLT) — 10 When you forgive this man, I forgive him, too. And when I forgive whatever needs to be forgiven, I do so with Christ's authority for your benefit, 11 so that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are familiar with his evil schemes.
- **Ephesians 4:26-27** 26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold.

UNFORGIVENESS IS SIN AND SIN INHERENTLY CARRIES A CURSE



The Many Faces of Unforgiveness

- Anger, Resentment, Critical Spirit, Blame
- Depression
- Violent Tendencies—Rage & Abuse
- Jealousy → strife; gossip; backbiting
- Addictive Behaviors
- Physical Problems
- Relationship Problems



"Unforgiveness is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die."

Unforgiveness is SIN



The Curse of Unforgiveness

Curses of Deut. 28

- Humiliation
- Barrenness
- Sickness of every kind
- Poverty, Repeated Failure
- Defeat,
- Depression
- Never Get Ahead Always "Under"
- Intimidated
- Controlled & Dominated

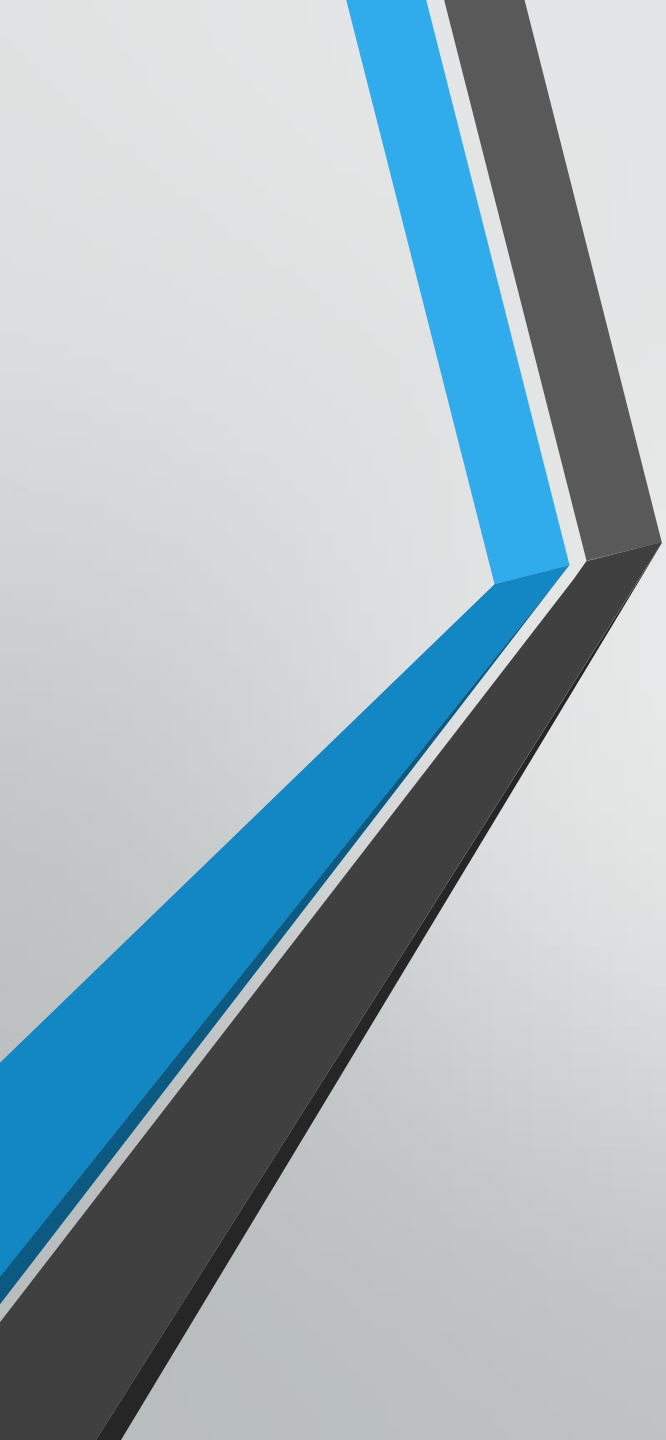
Indications of Curses

- Mental, emotional breakdown, anger, rage
- Repeated sickness, especially hereditary sickness -
- Feminine problems - barrenness, miscarriage,
- Relationship Issues Often
- Financial insufficiency, poverty.
- Accident prone
- History of unnatural deaths

- Hebrews 12:15 (ESV) — 15 See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “*root of bitterness*” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled
- Root: a descendant or cause; the primary reason for something
- Bitter: bitter hatred, extreme wickedness, poison, recalcitrant (not responsive to treatment-hard hearted)
- Defile: morally corrupt; polluted, stained
 - “to paint in color”; to stain by blood guiltiness
 - Little-Kittle Lexicon : to stain with guilt or demonic process
 - TDNT: a staining that not only affects the doer, but the doer transfers the stain to others

Demonic Effects of Unforgiveness (Bitter Roots)

Heb 12: 15-16 Exercise foresight and be on the watch to look [after one another], to see that no one falls back from and fails to secure God's grace (His unmerited favor and spiritual blessing), in order that no root of resentment (rancor, bitterness, or hatred) shoots forth and causes trouble and bitter torment, and the many become contaminated and defiled by it—

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- **Deuteronomy 29:18–19** (NLT) — 18 I am making this covenant with you so that no one among you—no man, woman, clan, or tribe—will turn away from the LORD our God to worship these gods of other nations, and so that no root among you bears bitter and poisonous fruit. 19 “Those who hear the warnings of this curse should not congratulate themselves, thinking, ‘I am safe, even though I am following the desires of my own stubborn heart.’ This would lead to utter ruin!

How Do I Know If I Have Unforgiveness Operating?

1. Do I replay tapes of conversations or painful experiences with other people?

- a.** We become fixated on our interactions with individuals
- b.** Do we find ourselves justifying ourselves and rehashing every word?

2. What is coming out of our mouth?

- a.** Romans 3:14 “Mouths full of cursing and bitterness”
- b.** Critical, demeaning, rude, easy to snap

How Do I Know If I Have Unforgiveness?

3. Are you sick often?

- a. Dr. Carsten Wrosch: when bitterness is harbored for along time, may forecast patterns of biological dysregulations that can affect immune response, metabolism, organ dysfunction and physical disease
- b. Bitter people tend to have high blood pressure and heart rate and more likely to die of heart disease and other illnesses

4. Are family and friends known for:

- a. Bitter attitudes in marriage and children
- b. Gripe sessions, complaining, harsh or angry, holding grudges





What Forgiveness is NOT!

- FORGIVING IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF PAIN
- FORGIVENESS IS NOT FORGETTING
- FORGIVING IS NOT EXCUSING
- FORGIVING IS NOT SMOOTHING THINGS OVER
- FORGIVING DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN RECONCILIATION IS POSSIBLE OR THE WISE THING TO DO

FORGIVENESS IS A CHOICE, NOT A FEELING!



UNFORGIVENESS IS THE REASON SOME PEOPLE NEVER GET HEALED... EMOTIONALLY

In the words of Richard Wurmbrand, the Romanian pastor who was imprisoned and tortured for 14 years in a communist prison...

"The length of time it takes to recover from emotional hurt is directly related to the length of time it takes to forgive"

So How Can I Forgive?



R-E-A-C-T AGAINST UNFORGIVENESS

- **R**- Recognize the hurt that has been done
 - Don't be in denial that the hurt didn't matter
- **E**- Empathize with the offender
 - Why would they have done, said, etc what they did
- **A**- Align Yourself with God's Will and Word
 - Repent & Renounce Demonization
- **C**- Choose to Forgive
 - Forgiveness is a Choice
- **T**- Take the Responsibility to Stay in Forgiveness
 - How would you treat them if they had not offended you?

