

Introduction:

- A spiritually _____ home is one where God's grace and forgiveness abound.
- Maybe you are struggling with unforgiveness. In this morning's message, we will examine several Biblical principles that will assist you as you seek to overcome unforgiveness.
- "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32

Confirm _____.

- When a person has sinned against you, it is difficult to forgive that person if he/she has ______ to repent and confess his/her sin.
- It may be wise to explain to the person who has wronged you why you are having a difficult time forgiving.

Recognize and turn from ______ attitudes and expectations.

- Many times we withhold forgiveness because:
 - → We believe the offender must _____ or deserve our forgiveness.
 - \rightarrow We want to punish the offender and make him/her

→ We want him/her to guarantee us that the offense will _____ occur again.

• These attitudes and expectations are utterly inconsistent with the command of Ephesians 4:32.

Assess _____ own contribution to the problem.

- In many cases, your _____ may have contributed to a conflict.
- "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."
 Galatians 6:1

Remember _____ forgiveness.

 The quickest way to overcome an unforgiving attitude is to focus your attention on how much God has ______you. Matthew 18:21-35

Draw on God's _____.

- As you rely on Christ in you and depend on His strength, you can forgive the most ______ offenses. Philippians 4:13; Ephesians 3:16, 19-20
- Unless a deliberate effort is made to ______ and strengthen a relationship, it will generally deteriorate.
- Forgiveness and reconciliation are so much ______ than bitterness, conflict, anger, and animosity.