

### 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.