

The Most Excellent Way Pt. 5- Forgiveness

I will show you the most excellent way. 1 Corinthians 12:31

The kind of love that Paul articulates for us cannot thrive unless we believe in our core that it is a duty to love others.

1 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Corinthians 13:1-3

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:7

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12

he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, Philippians 2:7

It (love) keeps no record of wrongs. Corinthians 13:5

(Slide only) “Love does not forgive and forget, but rather remembers and still forgives.”

Forgiveness means that I choose to not let this affect my relationship with God.

Forgiveness displays a powerful trust and dependence on God.

The cross stands as evidence that all sin must be punished and that there are consequences for our sin.

25 God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, Romans 3:25

21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

(Slides only) “Not forgiving someone is like drinking poison and expecting them to get sick.”

Forgiveness of others demonstrates my complete dependence on God.

14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. Matthew 6:14-15

it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense. Proverbs 19:11

If you truly believe that Jesus died on a cross for your sins, then forgiveness is not optional.