

CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER LESSONS

FORGIVENESS:

“CONDEMNATION IS GOD’S JOB”

Read Romans 12:17-21 and 1 Corinthians 4:5.

Questions for discussion

1. When God forgives us, does it mean He thinks that what we did was okay?
2. When we forgive others, are we saying that their actions were right?
3. Why does God want us to forgive others when they have not asked for forgiveness or changed their ways?
4. Do we deserve to be forgiven?
5. Should God forgive us?
6. Who does God forgive?
7. Who should we forgive?

Key concepts

When we forgive someone, we are not saying that what they did was right. Rather, we are giving up our right to be angry about their wrong actions. We are leaving the problem and our hurt with God. God is the one who will judge what should happen to those who do wrong. Instead of paying back wrong for wrong, we should be kind (**1 Thessalonians 5:15**).

God has appointed certain people who are allowed to pass judgment in the form of discipline (**Romans 13:1-6**). Those people may be judges, police officers, government officials and parents of children. It is not up to children to discipline each other. God forgives everyone who asks Him and we need to forgive as well. The Bible says that if we do not forgive each other, then God will not forgive us.