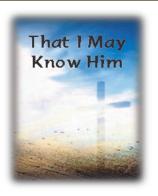
Seventy Times Seven

Matthew 18:21-35



An Unforgiving spirit will:

- * hurt my <u>relationship</u> to God
- * affect my ability to hear God
- hinder God answering my prayers
- * warp my personality
- * harden my countenance
- * rob me of joy and peace
- * harm my relationships
- * create turmoil in my marriage
- ※ scar my children
- * negatively affect my health

Forgiveness is not pardon

Forgiveness is <u>clearing</u> a person's <u>record</u> with me, and transferring the responsibility for <u>punishment</u> to God and government.

Six lessons about forgiveness from God's point of view

- 1) I must guard my Christian testimony
- See the offender as an <u>instrument</u> in God's hands
- 3) Let <u>hurt</u> draw attention to my offender's needs
- 4) bitterness is a type of <u>retribution</u>
- 5) Realize the offender is experiencing the <u>rebukes</u> of life
- 6) Demonstrate God's willingness to <u>forgive</u>