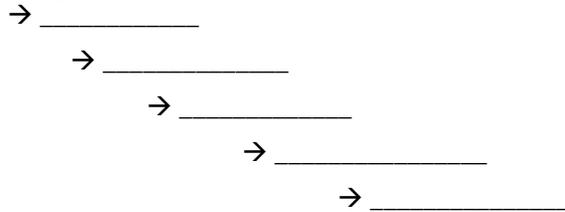


Be Intentional About Forgiving Others  
2 Samuel 11-17  
Pastor Roy Halberg

→ How do you respond when someone wrongs you?"  
the path most of us follow is a downward stairway . . .



→ Do you agree or disagree:

1. "The hardest thing God asks me to do as a Christian is to forgive someone who has wronged me"
2. "Failure to forgive will haunt you all of your life"

→ What happens in a person's life who can't/won't forgive?  
cf. Ephesians 4:26-27

Consider the life and experience of Ahithophel . . .

1. The BACKGROUND to Ahithophel's story (2 Samuel 11-15)

- A. David's \_\_\_\_\_ (ch 11)
- B. Nathan's \_\_\_\_\_ (ch 12)
- C. Amnon's \_\_\_\_\_ (ch 13)
- D. Absalom's \_\_\_\_\_ (ch 14)
- E. Absalom's \_\_\_\_\_ (ch 15)

2. The BETRAYAL of David by Ahithophel (2 Samuel 15-17)

- A. His \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (16:23; 1 Chronicles 27:33)
- B. His \_\_\_\_\_ to Absalom- \_\_\_\_\_ (15:12, 31 cf Psalm 55:12-14)
- C. His \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (16:20-17:4)
- D. His \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (17:23)

→ My question is WHY????

- Why did Ahithophel's life go in this direction?
- Why the betrayal? What caused his defection?
- Why such deep bitterness and hatred?

→ My conclusion is \_\_\_\_\_ (cf 2 Sam 11:3 & 23:34)

3. The BITTERNESS that stalks us all

(Four key principles that will change your life)

A. I must recognize that failure to forgive leads to a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. I must be committed to a \_\_\_\_\_  
before the offense occurs (Col 3:12-13; Eph 4:32)

C. I must consider the \_\_\_\_\_  
Psalm 103:12

Isaiah 38:17

Micah 7:19

D. I must acknowledge my own \_\_\_\_\_ (Gal 6:1-3)

→ Taking it home . . . So what? Now what?

1. Is there someone that \_\_\_\_\_?

2. Where are you on the downward stairway?

→ OFFENSE → RESENTMENT → HATRED → GRUDGE → REVENGE

_____
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3. Don't need to forgive anyone? GREAT!

Will you commit yourself today to a \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness?

BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT  
FORGIVING OTHERS



# How do you respond when wronged?

→ \_\_\_\_\_

→ \_\_\_\_\_

→ \_\_\_\_\_

→ \_\_\_\_\_

→ \_\_\_\_\_

# How do you respond when wronged?

→ OFFENSE

→ RESENTMENT

→ HATRED

→ GRUDGE

→ REVENGE

# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

→ Do you agree or disagree?

"The hardest thing God asks me to do as a Christian is to forgive someone who has wronged me"

"Failure to forgive  
will haunt you all of your life"



What happens when we  
can't/won't forgive?

**I**nforgiveness



# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

## 1. The Background to Ahithophel's story- 2 Sam 11-15

A. David's sin of adultery and murder (ch 11)

B. Nathan's rebuke & David's repentance (ch 12)

C. Amnon's rape of his half-sister, Tamar (ch 13)

D. Absalom's killing of Amnon & exile (ch 13)

E. Absalom's revolt against his father, David (ch15)

# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

## 2. The Betrayal of David by Ahithophel- 2 Sam 15-17

A. His Identity- a trusted advisor (16:23; 1 Chronicles 27:33)

B. His Response to Absalom- a huge surprise! (15:12)

C. His Advice- a shocking insight into his life (16:20-17:4)

D. His End- a terrible death (17:23)

→ My question is WHY???

+ Why did Ahithophel's life go in this direction?

+ Why the betrayal? What caused his defection?

+ Why such deep bitterness, & hatred?

# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

## 2. The Betrayal of David by Ahithophel- 2 Sam 15-17

A. His Identity- a trusted advisor (16:23; 1 Chronicles 27:33)

B. His Response to Absalom- a huge surprise! (15:12)

C. His Advice- a shocking insight into his life (16:20-17:4)

D. His End- a terrible death (17:23)

→ **My conclusion is**

Ahithophel had a son, Eliam (2 Sam 23:34)

+Eliam had a daughter, Bathsheba (2 Sam 11:3)

=resentment, bitterness, & hatred

# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

## 3. The Bitterness that stalks us all

### 4 PRINCIPLES THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

A. I must recognize that failure to forgive leads to a life of bitterness

B. I must be committed to a ministry and spirit of forgiveness before the offense takes place (Col 3:12-13; Eph 4:32)

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you



# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

## 3. The Bitterness that stalks us all

### 4 PRINCIPLES THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

- A. I must recognize that failure to forgive leads to a life of bitterness
- B. I must be committed to a ministry and spirit of forgiveness before the offense takes place (Col 3:12-13; Eph 4:32)
- C. I must consider the example of God in forgiving me (Eph 4:32)
- D. I must acknowledge my own shortcomings/failings (Gal 6:1-3)



# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

→ Taking it home . . . So what? Now what?

1. Is there someone that you need to forgive?
2. Where are you on the downward stairway?



Where are you on the downward stairway?

→ OFFENSE

→ RESENTMENT

→ HATRED

→ GRUDGE

→ REVENGE

# Be Intentional About Forgiving Others

→ Taking it home . . . So what? Now what?

1. Is there someone that you need to forgive?
2. Where are you on the downward stairway?
3. Will you commit yourself to a ministry of forgiveness?



Be gentle with one another, sensitive.

**Forgive one another**  
as quickly and thoroughly  
as God in Christ forgave you.

Eph 4:32  
(THE MESSAGE)