



# **FORGIVENESS**

---

By

Robert C. Archer



## Forgiveness is not

---

- Totally removing the offense from our mind (1 Kgs. 15:5)
- Dependant upon feelings
- Restoring the relationship exactly as it was (Matt. 19:9)



# Forgiveness is

---

- Treating the Offender as though they never hurt us
- Giving up our right to hurt the Offender for hurting us
- Never holding the offense against them any longer
- “Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it” (Mark Twain)



## Why Is It So Difficult To Forgive?

---

- We give up our right to get even (Matt. 5:38-42; Rom 12:19-20)



## Things That Will Help Us Forgive

---

- Realize that what has happened has happened and nothing can change it (2 Sam. 12:13-23)



## Things That Will Help Us Forgive

---

- Realize the connection between our forgiveness and our forgiveness of others (Matt. 18:15-35; 6:14-15; Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13)



## Things That Will Help Us Forgive

---

- Examples
  - Father of the prodigal (Lk. 15:11-24)