

THE FORGIVENESS QUIZ

Rate each of the following statements as an **ACCURATE** or an **INACCURATE** description of forgiveness.

You cannot honestly forgive someone unless that person shows some remorse for what they did.

_____ **ACCURATE** _____ **INACCURATE**

If you really forgive someone, you would want that person to be released from the consequences of their actions.

_____ **ACCURATE** _____ **INACCURATE**

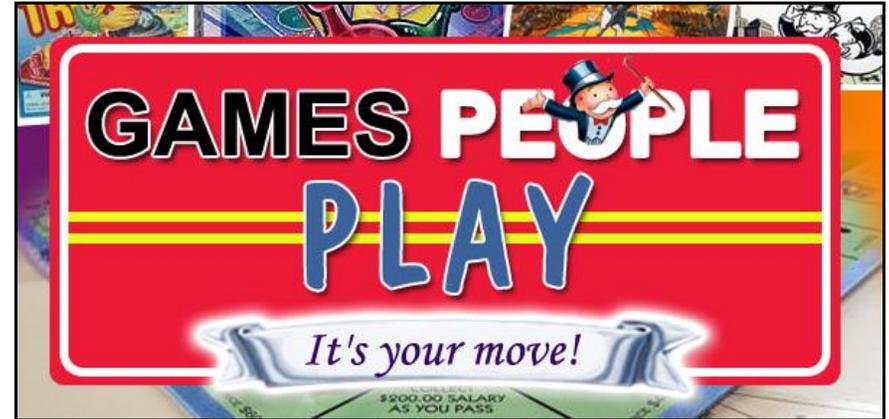
If you genuinely forgive someone, you should rebuild your relationship with that person.

_____ **ACCURATE** _____ **INACCURATE**

If you have really forgiven someone, you should be able to forget what they have done to you.

_____ **ACCURATE** _____ **INACCURATE**

NOTES



Part Two

SORRY - The Power of Forgiveness

Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT) If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

WHY I CAN'T FORGIVE

1. Forgiveness denies the _____ of sin.
 - **Proverbs 17:14 (NLT)** Beginning a quarrel is like opening a floodgate, so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out.
 - **Proverbs 19:11 (NLT)** People with good sense restrain their anger; they earn esteem by overlooking wrongs.
 - **Nahum 1:3a (NLT)** The Lord is slow to get angry, but his power is great, and he never lets the guilty go unpunished.
2. Forgiveness lets people _____ too easily.
 - **Matthew 18:21 (NLT)** Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"

3. Forgiveness places too much responsibility on the _____.

- **Matthew 5:38-39 (CEV)** You know that you have been taught, “An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.” But I tell you not to try to get even with a person who has done something to you. When someone slaps your right cheek, turn and let that person slap your other cheek.

4. Forgiveness is _____.

DEFINING FORGIVENESS

- We _____ that a wrong has occurred.
- We _____ that there is an obligation for repayment.
- We _____ to release our offender from that obligation and to cover the loss ourselves.

Romans 9:14 (AMP) What shall we conclude then? Is there injustice upon God's part? Certainly not!

Matthew 18:22 (CEV) Jesus answered: Not just seven times, but seventy-seven times!

Genesis 4:24 If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.

Matthew 18:23-27 (NLT) For this reason, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. He couldn't pay, so the king ordered that he, his wife, his children, and everything he had be sold to pay the debt. But the man fell down before the king and begged him, 'Oh, sir, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' Then the king was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

Matthew 18:28-35 (NLT) But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient and I will pay it,' he pleaded. But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and jailed until the debt could be paid in full. When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him what had happened. Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' Then the angry king sent the man to prison until he had paid every penny. That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters in your heart.

WHY I SHOULD FORGIVE

1. Forgiveness is often the only way to _____.

2. Forgiveness frees us to get on with _____.

3. Forgiveness is an antidote to needless _____.

4. Forgiveness is the _____ of the forgiven.

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

DON'T MISS NEXT WEEK

TROUBLE

Pitfall or Potential ?