

FORGIVENESS

Making Space For Grace

By Nan Brown Self

Let freedom ring! Do we not love liberty and want to live in peace? The principles of forgiveness and the power that brings it about are discussed in this book, which is based on the author's life journey and experience.

What hinders forgiveness in one's self and others? Pride, roots of bitterness, a wounded spirit, a prison of passivity and walking in forgiveness make up the progression of topics described and discussed here.

Have you experienced fear, doubt, rejection, heartache, jealousy or anger? These emotions or patterns may surface from judgments you make against a parent or others who guided the first 18 years of your life. Early influences create life issues that have to be resolved as an adult. Growing into healthy adulthood is not easy for most people.

The idea is to identify and take responsibility for those judgments so you can take them to the foot of the cross, where they have been settled, paid for and where God's amazing grace brings freedom from their binding power. To whatever extent you are able to take responsibility in a broken relationship, you are apt to arrive at forgiveness and freedom.

Expectations may arise from needs not met in childhood. Seven main needs for every person are: 1) Unconditional love 2) Acceptance 3) Security 4) Worth and Value 5) Comfort 6) Nurturing and Emotional Nourishment 7) Recognition.

An unmet need leads to an expectation which leads to a right. Roots of bitterness are fully described in self and others. Steps to be rid of them are prescribed. The principle of clearly judging one's roots of bitterness provides possibilities for restored relationships and new beginnings — true liberty and love.

Faith in the triune God and His provision of the Word being made flesh and dwelling among us in the person and work of Jesus Christ is essential to praying in faith for the power to forgive. It is a provision that makes space for grace and truest liberty.

