

## THE RELATIONSHIP CHOICE

*Life's Healing Choices – Part 6*

*“Happy are those who are merciful to others.”* Matt. 5:7 (TEV)

*“Happy are those who work for peace.”* Matthew 5:9 (TEV)

**THE RELATIONSHIP CHOICE:** I evaluate all my relationships, offer forgiveness to those who have hurt me, and make amends for harm I've done to others, except when to do so would harm them or others.

*“At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, ‘Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?’”*

*“Jesus replied, ‘Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven.’”*

Matthew 18:21-35(MSG)

### I. Because I have been forgiven, I can forgive.

Luke 15 – The Prodigal Son

*“Bless the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, bless His holy name.”* Psalm 103:1 (NIV)

### II. The unforgiving become the unforgiven.

*“And forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.”* Matthew 6:12 (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.”* Matt. 6:14-15 (NLT)

*“But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.”* Mark 11:25 (NLT)

*“Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. Stop criticizing others, or it will all come back on you. If you forgive others, you will be forgiven.”* Luke 6:37 (NLT)

*“For there will be no mercy for you if have not been merciful to others. But if you have been merciful, then God's mercy toward you will win out over His judgment against you.”*

James 2:13(NLT)

### How can I become a forgiver?

1. Nail it to the Cross.

2. Start today.

## THE GROWTH CHOICE

**THE GROWTH CHOICE:** I reserve a daily time with God for Bible reading, self-examination, and prayer in order to know God and His will for my life and to gain the power to follow His will.

*“Continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.”* 2 Peter 3:18 (TEV)

### 1. Fix a daily time with God.

*“And now, dear children, continue to live in fellowship with Christ...”* 1 John 2:28 (NLT)

*“Everyone who lives in union with Christ does not continue to sin...”* 1 John 3:6 (TEV)

*“Continue praying, keeping alert, and always thanking God.”* Colossians 4:2 (NCV)

### 2. Follow Christ to the finish line.

*“I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again.”*      Philippians 1:6 (NLT)