

WISDOM JOURNAL

DAY 64

SUBJECT: A LESSON ON FORGIVENESS

I had a hard time forgiving people when I was in my early twenties. I was bitter toward the people who hurt me. While I was holding un-forgiveness I did not realize it was un-forgiveness. I thought I was protecting myself and being wise.

In actuality, I was building a wall between me and God. **BEFORE** I became bitter toward the people who hurt me I was giving the best of me toward these individuals. When they hurt me I recoiled into a cocoon. I was only thinking about **MY** feelings, **MY** agenda and indulging in the selfishness of **MY** hurt.

For years, it never dawned on me that I was holding un-forgiveness until the Holy Spirit mentioned to me how I **STOP GIVING**. I never realized that the act of **GIVING** to someone who hurt you symbolizes that you forgave them.

At the moment I heard this, I had to think about what I stop giving. It came to me like a ton of bricks. I stop giving love. My decision to stop giving **LOVE** to the people who hurt me caused me to hold un-forgiveness.

Romans 13:8 says, "*Owe no man anything, but to love one another, for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.*" I learned this valuable lesson. In order to **FORGIVE** you have to **GIVE** back the love you once had to the person who hurt you.

I know that's easier said than done. However, it is impossible to forgive if you refuse to give the greatest gift...**LOVE**! I held un-forgiveness for years toward the people who hurt me until I understood this revelation.

TAKEAWAY: If you can give love when people hurt you God will give you love **WHEN** you hurt Him. Matthew 6:15 says, "*But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*"

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