

# **"FREEDOM THROUGH FORGIVENESS"**

**Ephesians 4:30-32**

## **1. THE CAUSE FOR FORGIVENESS**

## **2. CLARIFICATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Forgiveness - "Giving up resentment I have against someone, along with the right to get even, no matter what they have done."

Unforgiveness - "The deliberate decision to refuse to give up resentment toward someone and the right to get even. Somebody has to pay for the hurt and I will not be happy until they suffer personally."

## **3. CONSEQUENCES OF NOT FORGIVING**

- A. It plants bitterness in our hearts.**
- B. It plants wrath in our hearts.**
- C. It plants anger in our hearts.**
- D. It produces clamor from hearts.**
- E. It produces slander from our hearts.**
- F. It produces malice in our hearts.**
- G. It causes personal bondage.**
- H. It causes personal pain.**
- I. It keeps us from reaching our potential in Christ.**
- J. It hinders relationships.**
- K. It exposes our pride.**
- L. It is an act of rebellion against God.**

**M. It restricts evangelism.**

**N. It grieves the Holy Spirit.**

**4. THE CURE TOWARD FORGIVENESS**

**A. Recognize our need**

**B. Acknowledge our hurt.**

**C. Pray the Lord gives us grace to forgive.**

**D. Forgive the person who hurt you.**