

WORD LIVING

Volume 1 / Issue 2 – October 2015

OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to offer help to families with budgeting and planning. We assist families in obtaining knowledge and awareness of all human resources/ services available to them. We sponsor FREE seminars that coordinate various services to meet changing needs. For more information on events we sponsor visit us on FACEBOOK or our website: www.stewardsinaction.com.



Greetings and welcome to our new readers. We hope you are spending time in the word every day. There is a great need for God's people to study (II Timothy 2:15), pray (I Thessalonians 5:17), abstain for the appearance of evil (I Thessalonians 5:22)

Last month we began the newsletter years with the statement:



I HEAR YOU LORD, BUT I'M JUST NOT LISTENING **THE MIND EATING CANCER OF UNFORGIVENESS**

With our lips, we would never allow such a statement to be uttered, but with our actions, we shout it loud and clear that what was done to us is beyond forgiveness and we have the right to move on with our life carrying that embedded unforgiveness for the person or persons who so wronged us.

We even believe, or want to believe, or shall we say, Satan tells us and we accept the reasoning that, unforgiveness is natural and we can move on and be all God has called us to be. The problem lies with the one who has wronged us and they are not deserving of our forgiveness.

There are many reasons to feel bitter, angry, hurt, and unforgiving based on the events that took place. In September, we provided a page of reasons that has caused many to hold on to unforgiveness. The pain of some actions is so deep, even the thought can produce uncontrollable tears, anger, and/or uncontrollable outbursts of rage for months or years.

To avoid the pain and suffering, we build a wall of protection. We select those who we allow in our space and those who have hurt us will never be accepted.



THE WALL OF UNFORGIVENESS

The Wall of Unforgiveness:

By definition, a wall is a barrier, divider, and a partition that keeps people or things apart. How can healing take place if there is a wall that prohibits those on either side from coming and/or working together?

Walls of unforgiveness will not protect anyone from pain and/or hurtful emotions. In fact, walls really drain the life out of the person who tries to avoid disappointments or situations that are stressful.

Instead of feeling better, the wall excludes you from God's blessings that come through relationships with family and friends. It is not good to be alone.

When we are alone, Satan speaks to our very being and stirs up feelings of bitterness, anger, and/or resentment. Satan replays the action repeatedly until emotions rise and render us useless as children of the King. We spend valuable time nursing our emotions, long since past while the opportunities of the present pass without notice.

Matthew 18:21-35 Jesus uses a parable to answer a question from one of my favorite spokesperson in the Bible. Peter, sounds like he can forgive, but there has to be a limit. Jesus gives a parable and I noted the following:

KING'S LIST OF PAST DUE ACCOUNTS	SERVANT A'S LIST OF PAST DUE ACCOUNTS
<p>1 Talent = 75 pounds of gold which in today's market = \$ 1,147.00/ pound. Servant A owes the king 10,000 talents = 750,000 lbs times \$1,147.00. Total Debt = \$ 860,205,000.00</p> <p><u>Outcome</u> – Servant A begs, the king has compassion</p> <p>Debt forgiven</p>	<p>1 pence = a penny</p> <p>Servant B owes Servant A 100 pence, which in today's market = \$100.00</p> <p>Outcome – Servant B begs, Servant A has no compassion</p> <p>Debt unforgiven</p> <p>Servant B cast into prison until he can pay.</p>

Take a moment to think about the stories and the outcomes.

When the king receive the news of how Servant A responded to Servant B, he as angry, called Servant A a wicked servant, and delivered him to the tormentors (tortures), until he paid his debt.

Matthew 18:35 lets us know the importance our Lord places on the act of forgiveness. It is not how many times we forgive, or even if it is the same person repeatedly, it is the act of obeying the Lord and receiving his blessings vs. a painful penalty.

My question for consideration is how many times per day do I need forgiveness for thoughts, words, and/or deeds? I ask the Lord for forgiveness and he forgives. So let's consider the following:

If a person seeking to live for the Lord had ten (10) issues per day where they needed to seek forgiveness, they would need to be forgiven 3,650 per year and if the request continued for 70 years, that would be 255,500 times our Lord forgave the same person. Moreover, some of them could have been for repeated offences.

The ten (10) issues per day sounds great however we have bad days. Those days when we have ungodly thoughts, we don't speak as we should, we act ugly, lie, share gossip, steal time and supplies from work (non-work related calls or texts, shopping on line during work time and/or personal copies), borrow and forget to repay and fuel discord with our opinions. In addition, when we come to ourselves and seek his forgiveness, God is faithful to forgive. How many times does our God forgive us? More than we can count.

Jesus concluded the parable, Matthew 18:35 stressing the importance of forgiveness. From the Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers:

We have forgiven, as a completed act before we begin to pray. In the very act of prayer, we are taught to remind ourselves of the conditions of forgiveness. Even here, in the region of the free grace of God, there is a law of retribution. The temper that does not forgive, cannot be forgiven, because it is *ipso facto* a proof that we do not realize the amount of the debt we owe. We forget the ten thousand talents as we exact the hundred pence, and in the act of exacting, we bring back that burden of the greater debt upon ourselves.

More next time His steward Karen



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*“Furthering Families in
Financial Freedom”*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ****MEDICAID – ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS**
 - **Saturday, October 31, 2015 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

****WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD AT**

**Louis A. McMurray Conference & Transportation Center
2624 Sherman and 6th Street, Muskegon Hts., MI 49444**

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October 16 –18, 2015

United Conference for Women - Kalamazoo, MI

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- ****ESTATE PLANNING – GETTING YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER**
 - **Saturday, November 14, 2015 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

****WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD AT**

**HealthWest (Formerly Muskegon County Community Mental Health)
Conference Room**

376 E. Apple Ave at Wood Street, Muskegon, MI 49442