

Forgiving when it seems impossible

Colossians 3:13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

Matthew 6:15 But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

SUBPOINT: The Key to Living an Unoffended life is to FORGIVE.

#1 - Forgiveness deals with my past, but impacts my <u>present</u> & <u>future</u>.

"When Joseph was taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelite traders, he was purchased by Potiphar, an Egyptian officer. Potiphar was captain of the guard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master. Potiphar noticed this and realized that the Lord was with Joseph, giving him success in everything he did. This pleased Potiphar, so he soon made Joseph his personal attendant. He put him in charge of his entire household and everything he owned. From the day Joseph was put in charge of his master's household and property, the Lord began to bless Potiphar's household for Joseph's sake. All his household affairs ran smoothly, and his crops and livestock flourished. So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn't worry about a thing—except what kind of food to eat! Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man," Genesis 39:1-6 NLT







#2 - Forgiveness is decided in a *moment*, but healing is a *process*.

"But the Lord was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the Lord made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden. Before long, the warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The Lord was with him and caused everything he did to succeed." Genesis 39:21-23 NLT

"Then Joseph hurried from the room because he was overcome with emotion for his brother. He went into his private room, where he broke down and wept." Genesis 43:30 NLT

#3 - On the other side of Forgiveness is your Manasseh.

"Joseph named his older son Manasseh, for he said, "God has made me forget all my troubles and everyone in my father's family." Joseph named his second son Ephraim, for he said, "God has made me fruitful in this land of my grief."" Genesis 41:51-52 NLT