

Part 6 - The Weapon of Forgiveness

“The Weapon of Forgiveness” emphasizes the importance of forgiveness in overcoming bitterness and resentment. Using the story of Job, Pastor Jamie discusses surrender, repentance, and the transformative power of forgiveness in our relationship with God. He highlights how forgiveness breaks the stronghold of bitterness, brings healing, and fosters reconciliation. Through examples from the Bible and real-life stories, Pastor Jamie encourages listeners to choose forgiveness as an act of worship and spiritual warfare, opening themselves up to God’s blessings and restoration.

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Job 42:7-10

7 After the Lord had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has. 8 So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has." 9 So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the Lord told them; and the Lord accepted Job's prayer. 10 After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord made him prosperous again and gave him twice as much as he had before.

Matthew 18:32-35

32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' 34 In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

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Message notes:

There's no greater warfare than to come to a _____
_____ to Jesus Christ.

There are _____ that come with being
restored to God.

God can handle _____. What he can't
handle is false accusations, misrepresenting Him, and cynicism.

God loved these friends. That is why He is
_____ them, to bring them back around.

Resentment and _____ brings division, wars,
and destruction of families and Church.

You can _____ the blessing of God and His
restoration by refusing to forgive.

The motivation for forgiveness is not that the person deserves it,
it is that God has _____ you mercy.

You can't pray _____ on someone you're
angry with or resentful of.

In *JOB: My Ugly Priest*:

Forgiveness of the Friends - Chapter 11: Job's '153'
Restoration

153 Redemption - Chapter 11: Job's '153' Restoration

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Discussion Questions:

1. Pastor Jamie mentioned the importance of trusting and surrendering to God, as demonstrated by Job in his story. In what ways can you practice surrendering to God in your everyday life?
2. Pastor Jamie highlighted the milestones of Job's surrender and repentance, and mentioned great rejoicing when someone restores their relationship with God. Why is repentance and restoration with God compared to coming back home or the prodigal returning?
3. Our lives cannot be separated from our relationship with God, and restoration involves taking responsibility for our choices. Can you share about a time when taking responsibility for your actions brought about healing and restoration in your life?
4. Job 42 shows us how Job prayed for his friends after experiencing restoration with God, and how that act of forgiveness brought healing and restoration. Is there someone in your life you need to forgive? How can you begin that process to bring healing and restoration?
5. Pastor Jamie shared the parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18 and explained that forgiveness is a choice to extend mercy, rather than something that can be demanded or forced. What are the differences between true forgiveness and forcefully 'forgiving' someone?

Ministry Time:

Pray for anyone who is struggling with giving out forgiveness to someone else.

Pray for anyone who feels guilty of sinning against a sister or brother and needs to go seek out forgiveness from them.