

The Freedom of Forgiving: Why Forgiving Is So Difficult

FORGIVING MAKES US OWN WHAT WE WOULD RATHER DENY

(Matthew 12:13) Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand."

THERE ARE NO SHORT-CUTS TO FORGIVING

(Luke 15:18) I will set out and go back to my father...

(Philippians 2:12b) ...continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling.

FORGIVING IS MORE LIKE SURGERY THAN A SEDATIVE

(Hosea 6:1) "Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds.

FORGIVING ASKS US TO STOP FIGHTING AND START FEASTING

(Psalm 23:5) You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

FORGIVING MAY NOT RESTORE THE RELATIONSHIP

(Romans 12:18) If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Forgiving hurts, but I trust you, dear Father, more than it hurts.

Put sermons on the web note at the bottom of the outline, if you have room.