

Today's Theme

# “Let It Go”

Series Title:

## “Staying Encouraged”

Part 29 11/15/20

### Forgiveness Never Revenge Being Careful With Actions Is Wise

#### 1. We need to *watch out* for bitterness.

Hebrews 12:15 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

#### 2. Wisdom moves from *grudge* to *forgiving*.

Mark 6:19 So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him.

Ephesians 4:31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

#### 3. A *forgiving life* must *have Jesus*.

Colossians 3:13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

### The Desire For Revenge

1. Is a natural *instinct* that explodes in us.
2. Is a normal *response* from humans.
3. Is to not let a *culprit* “get away with it”.
4. Is a natural sense of *self-protection*.
5. Is to feel you must *right* a wrong.
6. Usually turns out *pricey* to get even.
7. Generally contribute to *negative* spirals.
8. Can risk important *relationships*.
9. Causes us to hold onto intense *anger*.

### Vengeance Belongs To God

Rom 12:17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.

1. He can *deal* with *hurtful* people.
2. He can *soften* an *angry* person.
3. He can bring an *ex* to their *senses*.
4. Forgiveness *doesn't* stop *justice*.

### What Forgiveness Is & Does

1. It's a *voluntary* act.
2. It's something we *choose* to do.
3. It's what we do when *ready* to move on.
4. It's about letting go of the *past*.
5. It's taking *care* of our *mental* health.
6. It's us setting ourselves up to be *free*.
7. It allows us to do *good* to *others*.
8. It *doesn't* mean we are *pushovers*.
9. It refuses to *act* in a *destructive* way.

### Steps To Take In Letting It Go

1. *Identify* who your *angry* with.
2. *Honestly* address your *feelings*.
3. *Begin* forgiving them by *leaning* on Jesus.