

**Towards Forgiving
Philippians 2:3-5
Forgive for Good, Part 3
August 28, 2011**



Some Preliminary Truths

- Psalm 133/Matthew 18.21-22
- What forgiveness is not: instant or quick; pretending or denying; reconciling; dependent upon an apology.
- John 20.23, Jesus: "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"
- our working definition of forgiveness:

Towards Forgiving

1. Recall the Hurt

2. Empathy

a. Crossing the Gap

b. Growing Empathy

- hear God, Philippians 2.3-5, Colossians 3.12-14
- write, write, write!
- try on new lenses
- be embarrassed again

Our New Working Definition of Forgiveness:

Forgiving for Good is aligning myself with the prompting and empowering of the Spirit of God to cancel and pay the debt of someone who has unjustly hurt me and does not deserve this gift, graciously _____, _____ emotions (to which the offender has no entitlement) against _____, _____ emotions.