



October 6-7, 2007

“The Three Toughest Words...Times 2”

Genesis 50:15-21; Luke 15:20; Hosea 3:1-3

Toughest Words to Say:

1. “I was wrong”
2. “I forgive you”

Forgiveness within Families:

Between Siblings: (Genesis 50:15-21)

1. Forgiveness affects our attitude and joy
2. Forgiveness affects many futures
 - * This forgiveness had no boundaries

Between Parent and Child: (Luke 15:20-31)

1. Forgiveness extended is cause for celebration
2. Forgiveness extended can cause further problems
 - * This forgiveness had short-term celebration but long-term consequences

Between Husband and Wife: (Hosea 3:1-3)

1. Forgiveness is commanded
2. Forgiveness will cost us
3. Forgiveness takes commitment not emotion
 - * This forgiveness involved clear boundaries

Forgiveness:

1. Is refusing to hurt you for hurting me
2. Is releasing my right for revenge & resentment
3. Is the ultimate demonstration of grace