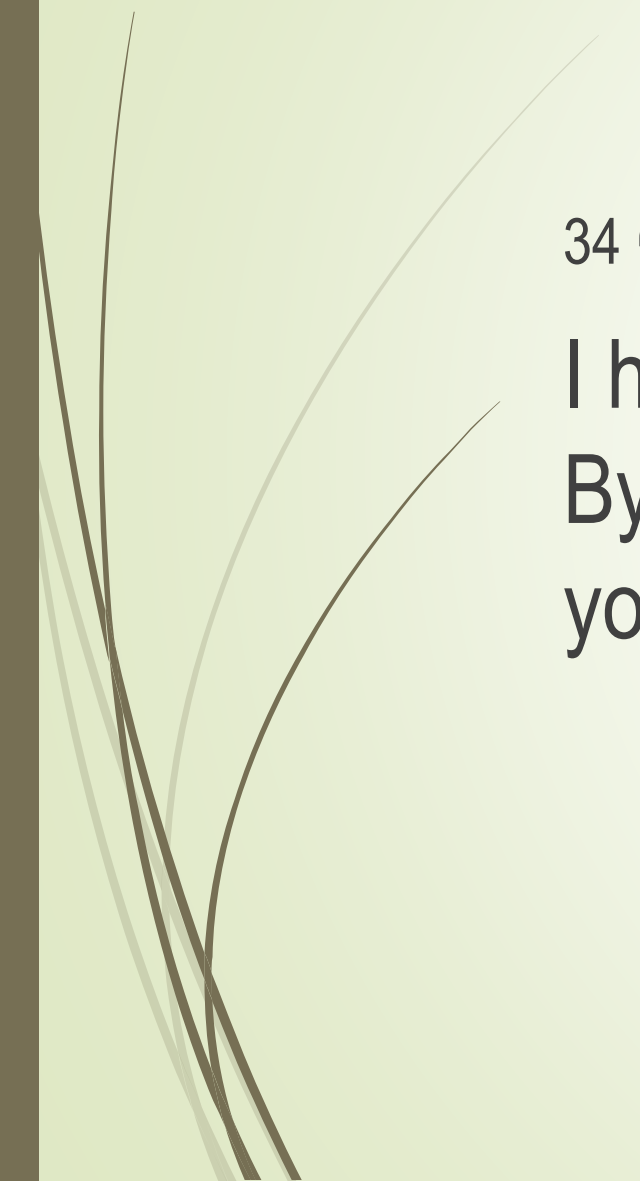




The Ultimate Apologetic



JOHN 13:34–35



³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵
By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”








The Ultimate Apologetic

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!

EPHESIANS 4:32



EPHESIANS 4:32



³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,



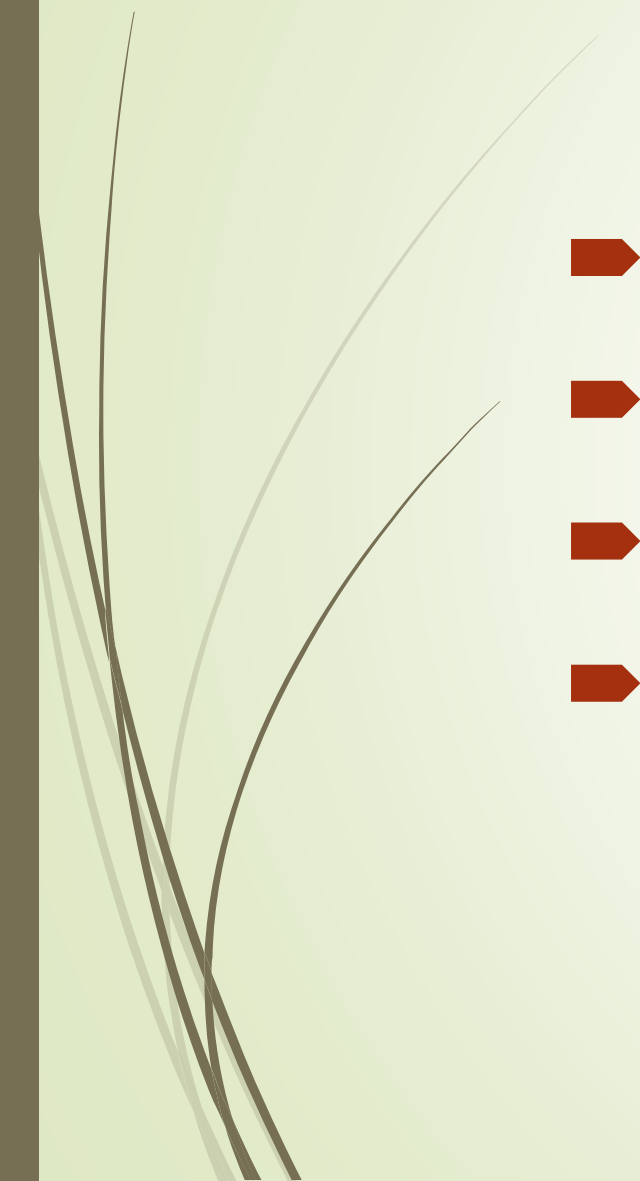
FORGIVENESS?


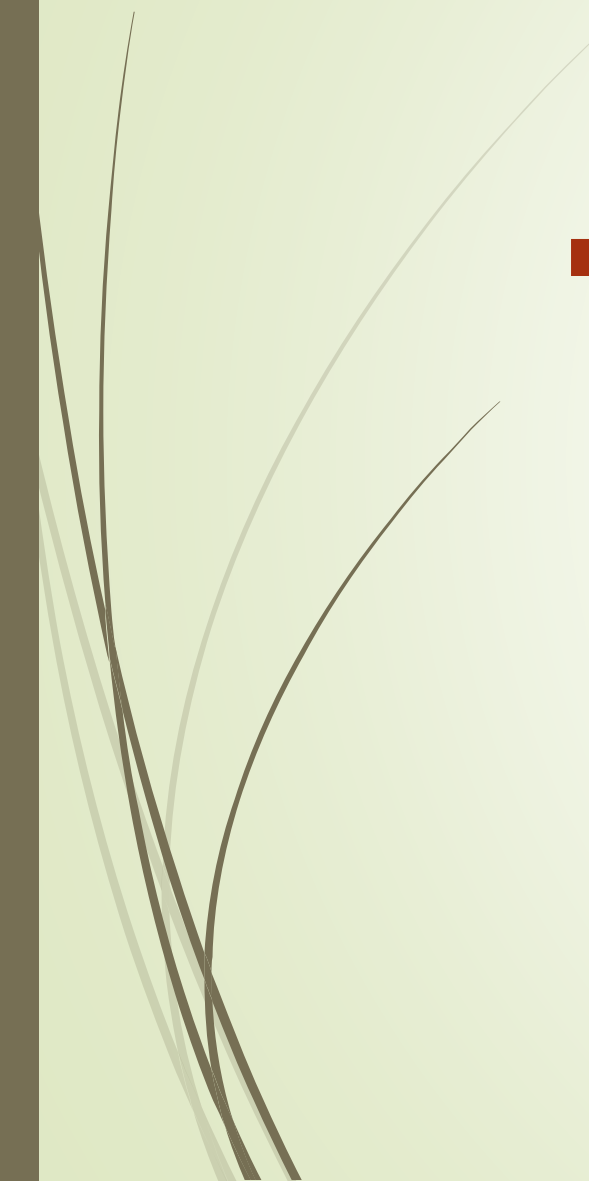
- ▶ Forgiveness is a conscious, deliberate decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance toward a person or group who has harmed you, regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness.

The Greater Good Science Center,
UC Berkeley



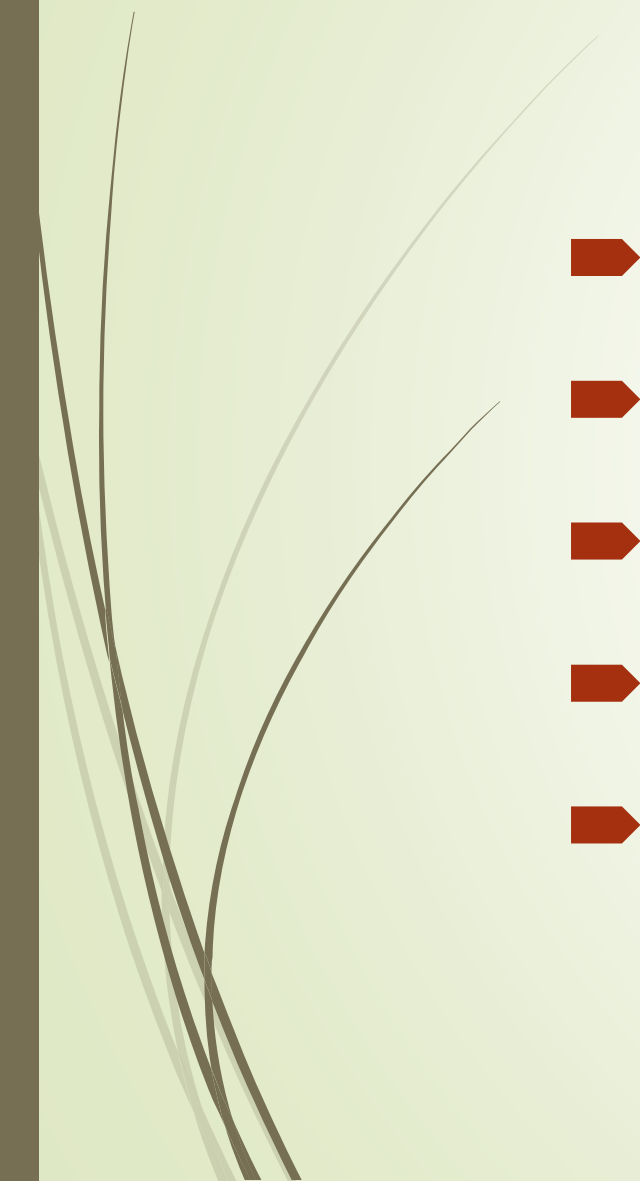
WHAT IS REQUIRED

- Let it go. . . .
 - Be kind. . . .
 - Be compassionate. . . .
 - Why?
- 

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- To fail to forgive is to place yourself in the prison of bitterness and continue to tell yourself that it is the other person who is being punished.




WHAT IS REQUIRED



- Let it go. . . .
 - Be kind. . . .
 - Be compassionate. . . .
 - Why?
 - How?
- 



EPHESIANS 4:32


³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.



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- To refuse to forgive is to assert your own sovereignty which is to deny the ability of God to use the pain in your life in such a way that you grow through it rather than shrink from it or are overcome by bitterness.




A SIGNIFICANT DISTINCTION

- Confession acknowledges a wrong.
 - Forgiveness –
 - requires humility on the part of the offender
 - and deep trust in the sovereignty of God on the part of the offended party.
- 



A SIGNIFICANT DISTINCTION

- The focus in forgiveness is on the restoration of the relationship with the glory of God always in mind.
- 



SO WHAT?

- How great is your dependence on God's forgiveness?
 - Are you willing to forgive others?
 - How does our unwillingness to forgive "one another" diminish the glory of God in the eyes of the world?
- 