

*While forgiveness may cost the  
forgiver, restoration is the  
offender's responsibility*

October 3

There is a big difference between forgiveness and restoration. Forgiveness is a right. Restoration is a responsibility. Every offender has a God-given right to be forgiven of their offense and every believer is commanded by God to forgive since we too have been forgiven of our offenses. However, forgiveness does not equal restoration. Restoration of a broken relationship comes after the offending party accepts their responsibility for the offense and makes every attempt to make real and meaningful restitution, if at all possible. A true heart of repentance and brokenness are signs that the offender understands the value of being forgiven and pledges his future to never offend in like manner again. If you have been offended, forgive. If you, however, have offended and have been forgiven, accept your responsibility. Make every restitution possible and humbly pledge to not offend in like manner again. Perhaps God will grant you restoration of the relationship you have damaged

*Prayer for Today*

Dear Lord, please give me the grace to forgive others where and when they fail my expectations or otherwise offend me. Give me a willingness to be restored to these offenders. Also, Father, grant me the grace and humility to do whatever I can to be restored to those whom I have offended. Thank You Sir, amen.

*Scriptures for Today*

Matthew 6:14-15 For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (NKJV)

Proverbs 18:19 A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, And contentions are like the bars of a castle. (NKJV)