

A freed conscience

What happens to a child who doesn't learn the lessons of forgiveness by parental example?

If mother and father are critical and unrelenting towards each other, constantly keeping score of each other's wrongs, their children could privately develop their own personal feelings of guilt.

Such children may then find it almost impossible to accept teaching about a heavenly Father who offers total forgiveness.

How important it is not to interpret the Bible from the stand-point of our personal feelings. Our emotions may need to be "reprogrammed."

First, a practical step in learning about God's complete forgiveness could be to enquire from those with first hand knowledge of this, such as members of a local church.

Second, church people can show what God's Book advises. For example,

- 1) "submit to one another" Ephesians 5.21.
- 2) "encourage each other" 1 Thessalonians 5.11.
- 3) "honour one another" Romans 12.10
- 4) "love one another" 1 John 3.11.
- 5) "pray for one another" James 5.16
- 6) "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another Ephesians 4.32

Third, "The conclusion of the matter is this: There is no condemnation for those who are united with Christ Jesus." Romans 8.1 (New English Bible

GOOD NEWS IN BRIEF

"Oh, how great is your goodness...which you have prepared for those who trust in you." Psalm 31.19

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