

## **Letting Go**

### **Building Intimacy with God – Part 5**

*Forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. Matt 6:12 NIV*

*How many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered...Not seven, but seventy-seven times. Matt. 18:21-22 NIV*

Why must I learn to forgive?

#### **1. God has forgiven me**

*The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. Matt. 18:27 NIV*

*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Eph. 4:32 NIV*

#### **2. Resentment causes misery**

*'Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master turned him over to the jailors. Matt. 18:33-34 NIV*

*Some people...live and die with bitter hearts. Job 21:23-25 GNB*

*To worry yourself with resentment is a foolish, senseless thing to do. Job 5:2 GNB*

#### **3. I will need forgiveness again**

*This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart. Matt. 18:35 NIV*

*Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Matt. 5:7 NIV*

>>When dealing with hurt, I can: Hold on to it OR Let it go!

What if I don't forgive?

- I'm interrupting God's purpose in the world
- I'm destroying my witness for Christ
- I'm damaging my fellowship with the Father
- I'm grieving the Holy Spirit of God
- I'm forfeiting God's blessing on my life
- I'm betraying an indifference to the greatest thing God ever did