

Introduction:

- A. Forgiveness is not _____ for us.
- B. God is a _____ God and He expects us to be a _____ people.
- C. Nothing good ever results from being _____.

I. The Story (2 Samuel 16, 19)

- A. David is at one of the _____ places of his life.
- B. A man named _____ came out of nowhere to add to his misery.
 - 1. He threw _____ and _____ at David.
- C. Abishai’s suggestion was to let him _____ off the man’s _____.
- D. David decided to _____ himself to _____.
- E. After David came back into power, Shimei was the first in line to _____ and ask for _____.
- F. Abishai suggested that David _____ him to _____.
- G. David declared to Shimei, “You shall _____.”

II. The Application

- A. What is forgiveness?
 - 1. “Surrendering my right to _____ you for _____ me.”
 - 2. “Giving up the _____ of a different or better _____.”
- B. Three suggestions to help us with forgiveness:
 - 1. Remember how _____ we have _____ forgiveness.
 - 2. Understand where the offender is _____.
 - 3. Realize that extending forgiveness is what is best for _____ and for _____.

“We are most like _____ when we _____.
We are most like _____ when we _____.
We are most like _____ when we _____.”

(William Arthur Ward, *Thoughts of a Christian Optimist*)

Answer Key: Intro.: A. easy. B. merciful, merciful. C. unforgiving. I.A. lowest. I.B. Shimei. I.B.1. curses, stones. I.C. cut, head. I.D. entrust, God. I.E. repent, mercy. I.F. put, death. I.G. not, die. II.A.1. hurt, hurting. II.A.2. hope, yesterday. II.B.1. much, needed. II.B.2. coming, from. II.B.3. them, us. Poem: beasts, kill, men, judge, God, forgive.