DON'T BELIEVE IT: Forgiveness Means Forgetting

Dumb Things Smart People Believe - Part 4

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**Colossians 3:13 (NLT)**   
Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

DON'T BELIEVE IT: Forgiving means **Forgetting**

**The Dangers of Thinking**

**"Forgiveness Means Forgetting"**

* I lose my ability to **Accept Forgiveness**
* I lose my motivation to **Forgive Others**
* I lose my ability to **Trust Others**

DO BELIVE IT: Forgiveness is a **Choice**

I CAN CHOOSE TO FORGIVE WHEN I...

1. REMEMBER **How Much I’ve Been Forgiven**

**Colossians 2:13 (NIV)**   
When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,

2. RELEASE **The Individual (don’t carry a grudge against them anymore)**

**Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV)**   
Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

**Matthew 18:32-35 (NLT)**   
Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’ Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt. “That’s what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart.”

3. RECONSIDER **The Consequences**

**Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT)**   
“If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

**Romans 12:17-19 (NIV)**   
Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

4. REFOCUS **On God’s Grace**

**Hebrews 4:16 (NLT)**   
So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

**God's Grace Works In:**

* **My Life** to forgive others
* **The Lives Of Others** who need forgiveness

Choose to **Accept God’s Forgiveness** so I can choose **To Forgive Others**

**Ephesians 4:32 (NLT)**   
Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.