

Shalom Mennonite Church

May 12, 2013

Don't Forgive Too Soon

Part 5: Acceptance

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."

-Matthew 18:21-22

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome & Special Announcements

Edna Dyck

Gathering Music & Procession

We carry in a flame, the Bible, and a prayer cloth. May we trust the Light to guide us, the Word to teach us, and prayer to knit our lives together with God as we begin our time of worship.

Call to Worship

We have gathered as God's people
to delight in God's presence,
to experience God's healing,
to receive God's grace.

Let us be reconciled and renewed
as we worship our God
through Christ
in the Spirit.

Amen

Opening Song HWB 50

Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah

Proclaiming the Word

Presentation of Bibles to Second and Ninth Graders

Children's Time

Gerry Epp

First Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

Hymn HWB 137

Forgive our sins as we forgive

Second Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:43-48

Quiet Reflection

The periods of silence will begin and end with the ringing of a chime.

Meditation

"Perfect Hatred, Perfect Love"

Sara Dick

Quiet Reflection

Hymn of Response HWB 406

And is the gospel peace and love

Responding to the Word

Offertory & Prayer

Blessing of Graduates

Sharing Time & Introductions

During this time in the service we welcome visitors, invite responses to the worship service, and share prayer concerns and joys. Please sign the Welcome Pages (black books) in the pews so we can learn each others' names.

Prayers of the People

Sending Song HWB 433

Go, my children

Benediction

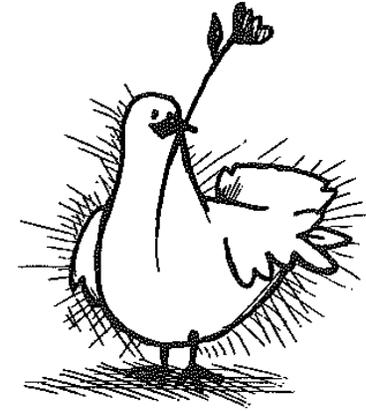
Hearing devices are available from an usher or the sound booth.

SYMPTOMS OF ACCEPTANCE MAY INCLUDE:

- I feel at peace with the person who hurt me, whether or not we mutually agree to continue the relationship.
- I feel grateful, not for the hurt itself and the destruction it caused, but for the new life I can see coming from the hurt.
- I wake up rested and eager to start the day, even if I am planning a picnic in a downpour. I feel energized and able to dream.
- I have courage to risk new situations in which I could be hurt again, because I know that healing is possible.
- I want to say “Yes” to reasonable requests, but when someone asks me to do something I don’t want to do, I feel free to say “No.”
- I can more readily love myself with whatever I am feeling and forgive myself when I make mistakes.
- Colors are brighter, food tastes better, music is more beautiful . . . I enjoy each moment rather than hurrying to finish.
- I am able to give and receive love with other people. When I receive a compliment, I am more likely to say “Thank you” and less likely to say “But . . .”
- I have a sense of belonging to myself, others, God and the universe. I feel wonder and reverence for all of life.

From *Don't Forgive Too Soon: Extending the Two Hands That Heal* by Dennis Linn, Sheila Fabricant Linn and Matthew Linn

Don't Forgive Too Soon Part 5: Acceptance



Sunday, May 12, 2013

Our purpose is to worship and praise God together, to pray for and encourage each other to live our covenant with God and to share Christ’s good news with others. As Anabaptist Christians we will reach out to others, welcome all people, be aware of our neighbors and respond to their needs, and give ourselves to service.

9:30 a.m.- Sunday School 10:45 a.m.- Worship
800 E. First St., Newton, KS
Phone: (316) 283-7395 office@shalomnewton.org
Web site: shalomnewton.org

Greeters: Bob & Yvonne Bontrager, Lola Schmidt, Marlene & Stan Smucker
Musicians: Merle Schlabaugh, Rachel Epp Buller
Visual Arts: Marlene Smucker
Sound & closing: Phil Graber
Bulletin cover art: *Don't Forgive Too Soon: Extending the Two Hands that Heal*, by Dennis Linn, Sheila Fabricant Linn and Matthew Linn; illustrations by Francisco Miranda. Copyright © 1978 by The Wisconsin Province of the Society of Jesus, Sheila Fabricant Linn and Dennis Linn. Used with permission of Paulist Press, Inc., Mahwah, NJ www.paulistpress.com

Pastors: Eric Massanari, Sara Dick
Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger
Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt
