

The background is a vibrant sunset with a color gradient from yellow at the top to deep blue at the bottom. A heavy metal chain is stretched across the lower half of the image, with one link broken and hanging off to the right. Several birds are silhouetted against the sky, some in flight. A white rectangular border frames the central text area.

FORGIVENESS



Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted, forgiving
one another, **as** God in
Christ forgave you.
Ephesians 4:32

How God Forgives

- God's forgiveness is costly
- God's forgiveness is fully experienced when accepted
- God's forgiveness is a commitment
- God's forgiveness is the beginning of reconciliation
- God's forgiveness does not eliminate all consequences

Bearing with one another and, if
one has a complaint against
another, forgiving each other; **as**
the Lord has forgiven you, so you
also must forgive.
Colossians 3:13

How should I forgive

- My forgiving will cost
- My forgiveness is fully experienced when accepted
- My forgiveness is a commitment
- My forgiveness is the beginning of reconciliation
- My forgiveness does not eliminate all consequences

I am the Offender

Christians are the most forgiven people in the world. Therefore, we should be the most forgiving people in the world.

Ken Sande



So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, (24) leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Matthew 5:23-24

I am the Offended

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. 1Peter 4:8

You have been offended by someone

Drop it

Don't speak of it to anyone else

For lack of wood the fire goes out, and where there is no whisperer, quarreling ceases. Proverbs 26:20



I forgive you

Questions to ask

1. Have I examined myself?
2. How sure am I that I am right?
3. How important is this?
4. Does this person show a pattern of this kind of behaviour?
5. What else is going on in the other person's world?
6. What do wise people counsel me to do?

Don't drop it

I will forgive

Surrender your wrath towards the person to God

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. Romans 12:19

I will not forgive

Study Matthew 18:23-35

Resolve not to take revenge

Proactively show love

Let God settle the account

I am the Offended



