



Life's  
Healing  
Choices

Freedom From Your Hurts,  
Hang-ups & Habits



## The Relationship Choice

### Matthew 5:7 & 9

*Happy are those who are merciful to others. (Matthew 5:7, TEV)*  
*Happy are those who work for peace. (Matthew 5:9, TEV)*

#### The Relationship Choice:

To \_\_\_\_\_ all of our relationships, offer  
\_\_\_\_\_ to those who have hurt us,  
and make \_\_\_\_\_ for harm that we  
may have done to others.

*Peter got up the nerve to ask, 'Master how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?' Jesus replied 'Seven? Hardly. Try seventy times seven. The kingdom of God is like a king who decided to square accounts with his servants. As he got under way, one servant was brought before him who had run up a debt of a hundred thousand dollars. He couldn't pay up, so the king ordered the man, along with his wife, children, and goods, to be auctioned off at the slave market. The poor wretch threw himself at the king's feet and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it all back.' Touched by this plea, the king let him off, erasing the debt. The servant was no sooner out of the room when he came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him ten dollars. He seized him by the throat and demanded, 'Pay up now!' The poor wretch threw himself down and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it back.' But he wouldn't do it. He had him arrested and put in jail until the debt was paid. When the other servants saw this going on, they were outraged and brought a detailed report to the king. The king summoned the man and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave your entire debt when you begged me for mercy. Shouldn't you be compelled to be merciful to your fellow servant who asked for mercy?' The king was furious and put the screws to the man until he paid back the entire debt. And that's exactly what my Father in heaven is going to do to each one of you who doesn't forgive unconditionally anyone who asks for mercy.'"*  
*(Matthew 18:21-35, MSG)*



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#### Two Principles:

1. Because I have been \_\_\_\_\_, I can \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ become the \_\_\_\_\_.

*God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy. (Matthew 5:7, NIV)*

*For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sin, your Father will not forgive you. (Matthew 6:14-15, NIV)*

*But when you are praying, first forgive anyone that you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too." (Mark 11:25, NLT)*

*Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. Stop criticizing others, for it will all come back on you. If you forgive others, you will be forgiven. (Luke 6:37, NLT)*

*For there will be no mercy for you if you have not been merciful to others. But if you have been merciful, then God's mercy toward you will win out over his judgment against you. (James 2:13, NLT)*

#### Two steps to becoming a forgiver:

1. The first is to \_\_\_\_\_ it to the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Start \_\_\_\_\_.