

Why Can't We Forgive?

From the Series

HEALING RAIN

"We are not forgiven because we forgive, but as we forgive." {White; Christ Object Lessons, pg. 251}

As We Forgive Others -> God Forgives Us

"We are not forgiven because we forgive, but as we forgive. The ground of all forgiveness is found in the unmerited love of God, but by our attitude toward others we show whether we have made that love our own."
{White; Christ Object Lessons, pg. 251}

When we forgive others, it reveals that we have truly experienced God's forgiveness towards us; and by this action of forgiveness towards others, we retain the forgiveness of God.

When We Have Received Forgiveness -> We Are Able To Forgive

When We Have NOT Received Forgiveness -> We Are NOT Able To Forgive

"A sense of the infinite sacrifice made for its cure, humbles them in their own sight and fills their hearts with gratitude and praise, which those who have never fallen cannot appreciate. **They love much because they have been forgiven much.**" {White; Great Controversy, pg. 649}

"The third time He sought the place of prayer. A horror of great darkness overcame Him. **He had lost the presence of His Father.** Without this, He feared that in His human nature He could not endure the test." {White; The Story of Jesus pg. 104}

"His holy angels were beside the cross. The Father was with His Son. Yet His presence was not revealed. Had His glory flashed forth from the cloud, every human beholder would have been destroyed. **And in that dreadful hour Christ was not to be comforted with the Father's**

presence. He trod the wine press alone, and of the people there was none with Him. {White; Desire of Ages pg. 753}

"Satan with his fierce temptations wrung the heart of Jesus. **The Saviour could not see through the portals of the tomb. Hope did not present to Him His coming forth from the grave a conqueror, or tell Him of the Father's acceptance of the sacrifice. He feared that sin was so offensive to God that Their separation was to be eternal.** Christ felt the anguish which the sinner will feel when mercy shall no longer plead for the guilty race. It was the sense of sin, bringing the Father's wrath upon Him as man's substitute, that made the cup He drank so bitter, and broke the heart of the Son of God. {White; Desire of Ages pg. 753}

"The displeasure of the Father for sin, and its penalty, which is death, were all that He could realize through this amazing darkness. He was tempted to fear that sin was so offensive in the sight of His Father that He could not be reconciled to His Son. The fierce temptation that His own Father had forever left Him caused that piercing cry from the cross: "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"" {White; Testimonies to the Church Vol. 2 pg. 209}

"But it was not the spear thrust, it was not the pain of the cross, that caused the death of Jesus. That cry, uttered "with a loud voice" (Matthew 27:50; Luke 23:46), at the moment of death, the stream of blood and water that flowed from His side, declared that **He died of a broken heart.** His heart was broken by mental anguish. He was slain by the sin of the world." {White; Desire of Ages pg. 772}

Case Scenario: Madison is a family friend who has isolated herself from others. She has no close friends and withdraws a lot into her music. She comes from a home in which her parents verbally abuse her. You can tell that she has a lot of bitterness toward her parents because of the music she listens to. She has reached out to you several times. What do you do?