

SHARPEN THE POINT

For further study of the message.

Hurts, Habits and Hangups | Part 5

January 31 & February 1, 2015

This week's study is about repairing relationships, or "The Relationship Choice." Our charge is to *evaluate* all our relationships, *offer forgiveness* to those who have hurt us and *make amends* for harm we have done to others. (Steps 8 & 9.) Begin your study by reading Matthew 6:12-15.

One definition of *mercy* is "*kind or forgiving treatment of someone who **could** be treated harshly.*" When have you been the one to show mercy to another? When have you been the recipient of another's mercy? How does God's mercy differ?

When has holding on to a hurt kept you from the sunlight of the Spirit? Have you ever had to forgive someone more than you have been forgiven by our Father? When have you had to extend forgiveness to someone more than once?

(Matthew 18:21-22)

Sin has its consequences. We need to forgive, relax, and let God settle the score – let Him call things into account. *You get to choose what rules your heart!* When will you trade your hurts for God's peace?

*"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."*

Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT)