



# **Freedom through Forgiveness: Even when it's Difficult**

**Ephesians 4:32**



# Main Idea and Outline:

- Main Idea – A New Life in Christ Calls for Forgiveness
- Outline
  - 1. Be kind and compassionate to one another (32)
  - 2. Forgive one another (32)
  - 3. It is by Christ that God forgave you (32)

# Be Kind and Compassionate to One Another

- Verse 32
- Compassion: showing sympathy or concern
- The example of Jonah
- We are broken people living in a broken world
- Who does your heart break for?
- Active steps of kindness and compassion can lead to forgiveness

# Forgive One Another

- Verse 32
- Definition of forgiveness: “A conscious act of obedience unto Jesus Christ to release someone from a wrong or hurt committed against me.”
- The importance of forgiveness for unity
- The example of the Lord’s Supper
- Matthew 5:23-24
- God desires our hearts
- God calls us to release our unforgiveness

# It Is By Christ That God Forgave You

- Verse 32
- Our highest need is forgiveness from God
- Romans 8:1-2
- Our sins are released through faith in Christ
- “For Christ’s Sake”
- Forgiveness to glorify Christ

# Next Steps

- Do you have a personal relationship with Christ where your sins have been forgiven?
- Who can you show compassion and kindness to as a step towards forgiveness?
- Be reminded daily that you yourself have been forgiven by God if you are in Christ.