

it's
all

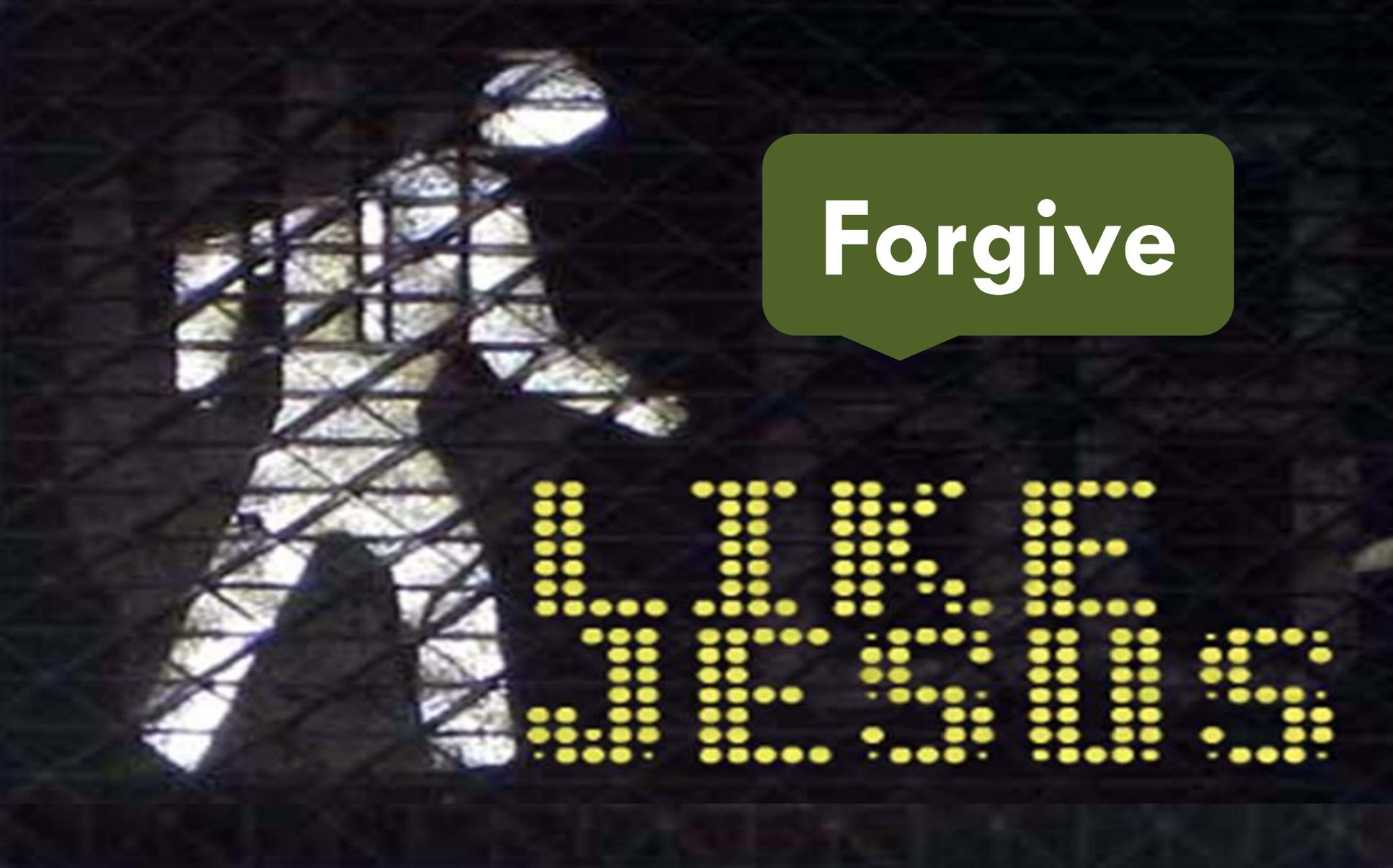
about

2016

JESUS

It is to one's glory to overlook an offense.

- Proverbs 19:11b

A person wearing a reflective safety suit is walking through a chain-link fence at night. The person's suit is illuminated from behind, making them glow. On the ground, the word "FORGIVE" is spelled out in large, yellow, dot-matrix lights. A green speech bubble containing the word "Forgive" in white text is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image.

Forgive

FORGIVE

The Nature of God

Forgive

^{24b} But you have burdened Me with your sins; you have wearied Me with your iniquities. ²⁵ It is I who sweep away your transgressions for My own sake and remember your sins no more. *- Isaiah 43:24-25*

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. *- Psalm 103:8-12*

¹⁸ Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. *- Micah 7:18*

The Nature of God

Forgive

⁸The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbour his anger forever;

¹⁰he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

- *Psalm 103:8-12*

The Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18:21-35 (NLT)

Forgive

²¹ Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?” ²² “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!

²³ “Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. ²⁴ In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. ²⁵ He couldn’t pay, so his master ordered that he be sold - along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned - to pay the debt.

²⁶ “But the man fell down before his master and begged him, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.’ ²⁷ Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

²⁸ “But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

The Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18:21-35 (NLT)

Forgive

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded. ³⁰ But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

³¹ "When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. ³² Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?'

³⁴ Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

³⁵ "That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart."

Importance of Forgiving

Forgive

¹² And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

¹⁴ For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. *- Matthew 6:12-14*

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. *- Ephesians 4:31-32*

The Example of Paul

Forgive

⁵If anyone has caused pain, he has caused pain not so much to me but to some degree - not to exaggerate - to all of you. ⁶The punishment inflicted by the majority is sufficient for that person. ⁷As a result, you should instead forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, this one may be overwhelmed by excessive grief. ⁸Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. ⁹I wrote for this purpose: to test your character to see if you are obedient in everything. ¹⁰If you forgive anyone, I do too. For what I have forgiven - if I have forgiven anything - it is for you in the presence of Christ. ¹¹I have done this so that we may not be taken advantage of by Satan. For we are not ignorant of his schemes.

- 2 Cor 2:5-11

Seven reasons to

Forgive

If anyone has caused pain, he has caused pain not so much to me but to some degree - not to exaggerate - to all of you. *(vs 5)*

1. To deflect self pity

The punishment inflicted by the majority is sufficient for that person. *(vs 6)*

2. To show mercy

Seven reasons to

Forgive

As a result, you should instead forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, this one may be overwhelmed by excessive grief. (*vs 7*)

3. To restore joy

Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. (*vs 8*)

4. To affirm love

Seven reasons to



Forgive

I wrote for this purpose: to test your character to see if you are obedient in everything. (*vs 9*)

5. To prove obedience

If you forgive anyone, I do too. For what I have forgiven - if I have forgiven anything - it is for you in the presence of Christ. (*vs 10*)

6. To restore fellowship

Seven reasons to

Forgive

I have done this so that we may not be taken advantage of by Satan. For we are not ignorant of his schemes. (*vs 11*)

7. To thwart Satan

Seven reasons to

(2 Cor 2:5-11)

Forgive

1. To deflect self pity (vs 5)
2. To show mercy (vs 6)
3. To restore joy (vs 7)
4. To affirm love (vs 8)
5. To prove obedience (vs 9)
6. To restore fellowship (vs 10)
7. To thwart Satan (vs 11)