

## Christmas Time again!!

The year has gone fast, we have had a good year myself especially being blessed financially, physically and mainly spiritually. Christmas time is all about blessing others, it is a time for giving. If you were to place these two words together “for giving” we get forgiving. Ever think of that? Christmas time is a time for forgiving? I have! I said something recently to another on the phone and my wife had a go at me that it sounded like I had unforgiveness in my heart toward someone, obviously I snapped back and it all but started into an argument, I swallowed my pride and for the last few days have been thinking about it anyway and came up with this message.

Christmas time is the time that God gave his only son, he forgave us, and he gave to us as a token of his forgiveness to us. He gave us his only son Jesus. It is hard to comprehend the trinity when you look at it like this, I suppose even though Jesus was God and is God, yet God gave us His Son he really gave of himself in a big way. When Jesus came to us he emptied himself of all of his rights, power and royalty as God. The Devil probably thought he was going to have a field day with him being a human. Maybe you wonder about him being as human as you and I, he had to rely upon the Holy Spirit the same as you and me. If not then why did he not just wipe the devil out literally? Why did he weep like us, have to eat like us, be tempted like us? I have said it many times, he was as human as you and I.

So what is my point? Christmas is for giving (forgiving), not receiving! We all look for something from another and sometimes if we don't get what we like we whinge about it, I know some people that feel obliged to give expensive or nice presents because they know that they are going to get something nice. Or worse still some people give expensive presents with the hope of getting something expensive. Yet, how many times do we forgive someone? The Bible says and we all know it in **Matthew 6:15 & Mark 11:26** “But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses”. Notice here Jesus starts with **BUT**. When you see a but there is a something prior to it that you have to do as well.

In Matthew we see Jesus teaching the disciples to pray, the last bits are “Forgive us our debts, lead us not into temptation, deliver us from evil and Jesus talking about Power glory and the kingdom of God. In Mark we see Jesus talking prior to this verse “moving mountains in our life, having power to curse the fig tree, and getting whatever we desire when we pray for it. So if we throw all of this up in the air and let it fall to the ground and lay down on our gut and read it, we may just have our eyes opened. Forgiveness is a major part of the Christian walk, personally I would go as far as to say it is the only part!

We hear preaching on be healed, yet the sick person maybe has unforgiveness which is not being addressed whether it be by themselves or by the preacher. We hear Be rich and get rich, yet the person has unforgiveness in their life and also don't give in the first place themselves. It amazes me how many people sit on their backside doing nothing, helping no-one, caring only about themselves and yet they say God is going to give me a new Harley, or a new car, or a ministry which will reach thousands, etc etc... I have seen it so many times over. People in general expect God to hand “**STUFF**” to them on a silver platter, yet they give nothing and have unforgiveness in their lives. I really can not comprehend that!

So what about me? Do I have unforgiveness in my life? Is that stopping my healing? I don't know but I certainly am doing some deep soul searching every day. See it is not a matter of how much “Faith” you have, because faith is just translated into the English of “trust, relying and depending upon God” basically. How much can we trust and rely upon God 10% of a matter or issue? I doubt it, you either trust him or you don't! But that rotten little unforgiveness that can hide in our life, hiding behind a smile, or a nice hello, or a yes they are wonderful people type of comments.

I know of a time in my life where it took me almost 2 years to forgive someone, I know of another time where it took me 4 years to forgive someone and it actually caused me to backslide for that time as well. **Mat 6:18** tells us also “That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly”. God sees the inner most secret of our hearts, the only one we are fooling is ourself. See, most of the time we can hide unforgiveness in our lives without it raising its ugly head, sometimes it does get raised and others see it, we feel convicted about but over a period of time we get over it and do not deal with it, thinking that it has gone and yet it will and does raise its ugly head again sooner or later.

So, this Christmas instead of looking to get a present, or looking to give a present and that being the main goal of Christmas day for you, how about looking at your life just like I need to and asking ourselves, have I got unforgiveness. If you really want the blessing of God this Christmas, and you have the courage, ask the Holy spirit to show you if you have any unforgiveness, but be prepared to be shown and then have to deal with it as well. I certainly will be asking him, and I already know that just maybe there is some unforgiveness there and I am going to have to deal with it. It is not a convenient time for me either, as I am going through some family illness and if my wife is correct, I am going to have to deal with it somehow.

So, forgive! Forget! Then get over it! Jesus loves us all, God forgives us and forgave us over 2000 years ago even before we were yet sinners, so how about paying back that respect to God and forgiving others, unforgiveness can hold back your healing, your spiritual walk, prosperity and blessings of God. Do you want to be blessed? I do! Please don't feel condemned if I have touched a nerve, but feel convicted of the Holy Spirit and let his peace flood your life!

**Bless ya ~ Roscoe**