Message Notes

Dirty Jobs: The power of forgiveness

Introduction – "Breaking up is hard to do..."

Today's Message: Dirty Jobs – Part 3: The Power of Forgiveness 2 Corinthians 2:5-11

- Don't be surprised by the pain of relational conflict.
 2 Corinthians 2:5
- Sin always has consequences.
 2 Corinthians 2:6

1 Corinthians 4:18-21

- 1 Corinthians 5:1-5
- 3. Forgiveness is beautiful. 2 Corinthians 2:7-8

Progression of Restoration

<u>STAGE</u> ---- What is needed Conflict --- Sinners Consequence --- Gospel Friends Release ---- The Gospel Repentance --- Courage Reconciliation --- Humility Restoration --- Vulnerability

- Forgiveness is not easy.
 2 Corinthians 2:9
- Displaying the Gospel through forgiveness.
 2 Corinthians 2:10

Colossians 3:12-13

6. Our enemy delights in unforgiveness 2 Corinthians 2:11

Romans 16:20

Gospel Application – "Forgive one another"

Scripture Passages (taken from the New International Version)

2 Corinthians 2:5-11

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you, to some extent—not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient for him. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹The reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹ in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

1 Corinthians 4:18-21

¹⁸Some of you have become arrogant, as if I were not coming to you. ¹⁹But I will come to you very soon, if the Lord is willing, and then I will find out not only how these arrogant people are talking, but what power they have. ²⁰For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power. ²¹What do you prefer? Shall I come to you with a whip, or in love and with a gentle spirit?

1 Corinthians 5:1-5

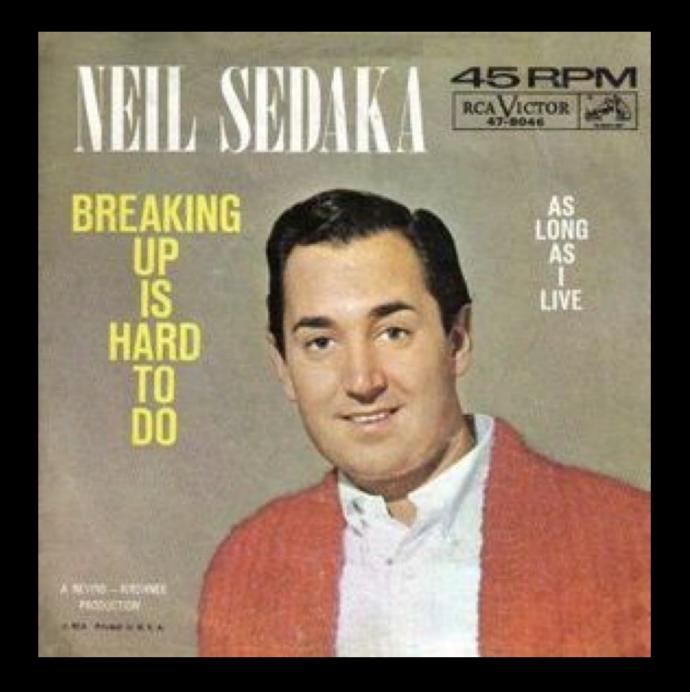
¹It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. ²And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this? ³Even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. And I have already passed judgment on the one who did this, just as if I were present. ⁴When you are assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present, ⁵hand this man over to Satan, so that the sinful nature may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord.

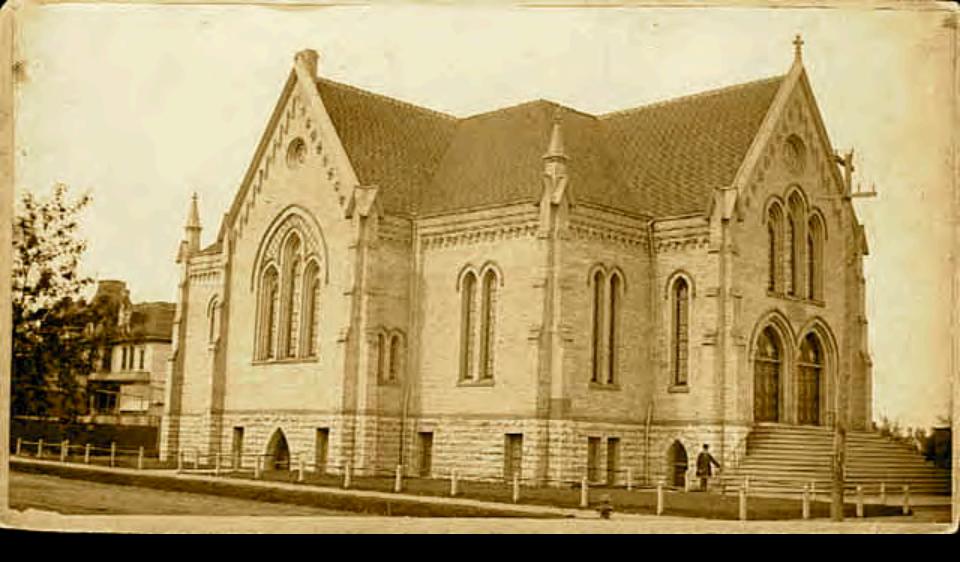
Colossians 3:12-13

¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

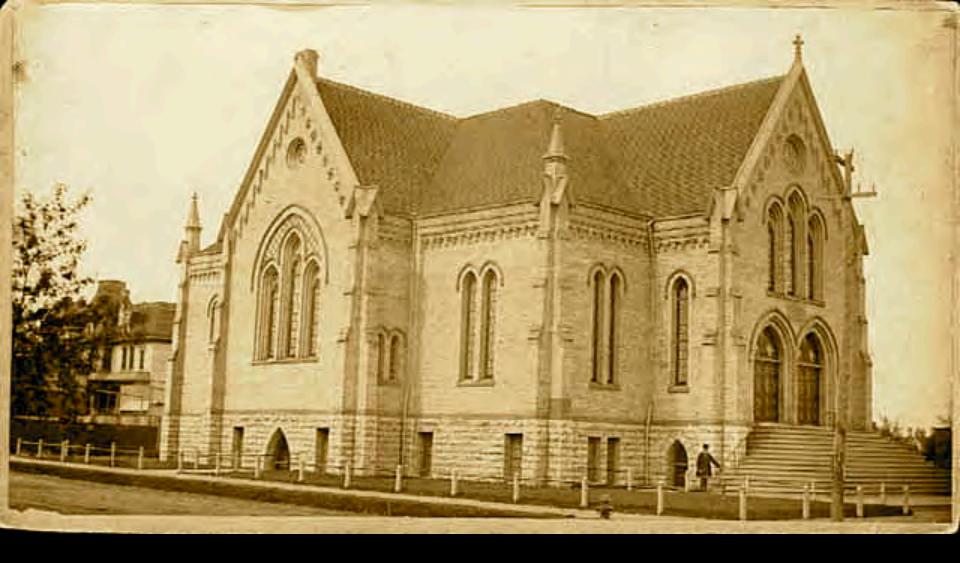
Romans 16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.







Congregational Vote Scheduled for November 6th, 2011 after each service



Convergational votes should interio Dovem ver sth, 2011 after each service



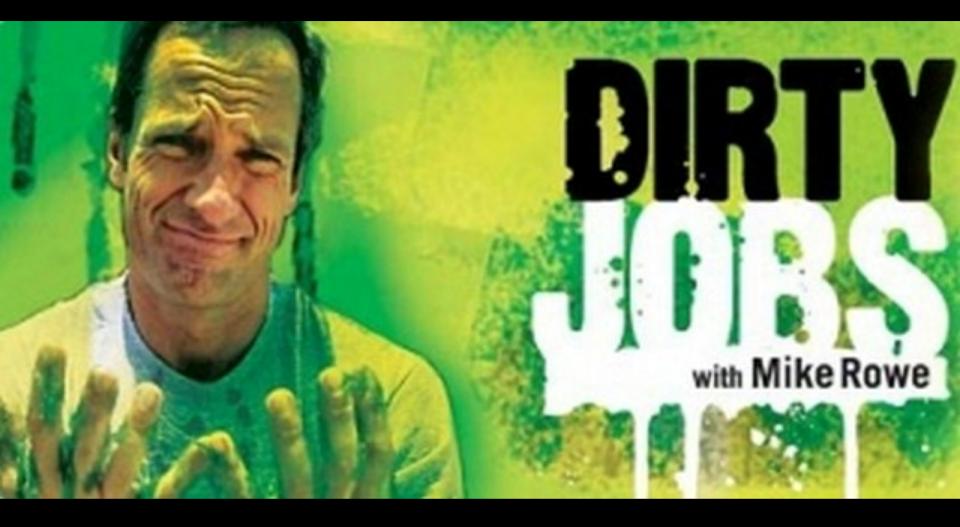
A STUDY OF 2 CORINTHIANS

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2 Corinthians 1:12-24

²³I call God as my witness that it was in order to spare you that I did not return to Corinth. ²⁴Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, because it is by faith you stand firm.



2 Corinthians 1:12-24

²³I call God as my witness that it was in order to spare you that I did not return to Corinth. ²⁴Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, because it is by faith you stand firm.

2 Corinthians 2:1-4

¹So I made up my mind that I would not make another painful visit to you. ²For if I grieve you, who is left to make me glad but you whom I have grieved? ³I wrote as I did so that when I came I should not be distressed by those who ought to make me rejoice. I had confidence in all of you, that you would all share my joy. ⁴For I wrote you out of great distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to grieve you but to let you know the depth of my love for you.



2 Corinthians 2:5-11

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you, to some extent - not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient for him. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹The reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

1. Do not be surprised by the pain.

2 Corinthians 2:5

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you, to some extent – not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient for him. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹The reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.



2. Sin always has consequences

2 Corinthians 2:6

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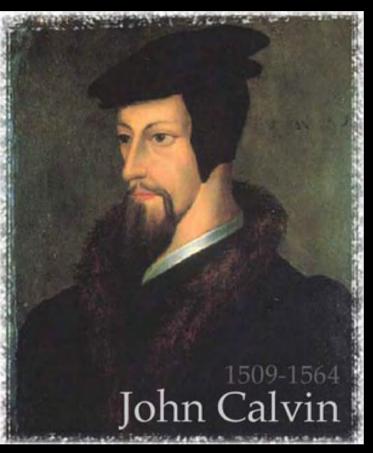
Consequences of SIN

1 Corinthians 4:18-21

¹⁸Some of you have become arrogant, as if I were not coming to you. ¹⁹But I will come to you very soon, if the Lord is willing, and then I will find out not only how these arrogant people are talking, but what power they have. ²⁰For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power. ²¹What do you prefer? Shall I come to you with a whip, or in love and with a gentle spirit?

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"Severity is required in order that wicked men may not be made more bold by being allowed to go unpunished – for this is rightly said to be an enticement to sin. But on the other hand there is a danger that a man who is disciplined will fall into despair so that the Church must practice moderation and be ready to pardon anyone as soon as it is sure that he has sincerely repented."

~ John Calvin, *The Second Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians*, page 29.



3. Forgiveness is beautiful.

2 Corinthians 2:7-8

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you, to some extent – not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient for him. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹The reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.



STAGE --- What is needed

STAGE ---- What is needed Conflict --- Sinners

STAGE ---- What is needed Conflict ---- Sinners Consequence ---- Gospel Friends

<u>STAGE ---- What is needed</u> Conflict ---- Sinners Consequence --- Gospel Friends Release --- The Gospel

STAGE ---- What is needed Conflict ---- Sinners Consequence ---- Gospel Friends Release ---- The Gospel Repentance ---- Courage

STAGE ---- What is needed Conflict --- Sinners **Consequence** --- Gospel Friends **Release** --- The Gospel **Repentance** --- Courage **Reconciliation** --- Humility

STAGE ---- What is needed **Conflict** --- Sinners **Consequence** --- Gospel Friends **Release** --- *The Gospel* **Repentance** --- Courage **Reconciliation** --- Humility **Restoration** --- Vulnerability

4. Forgiveness is not easy.

2 Corinthians 2:9

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you, to some extent - not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient for him. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹The reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

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5. The Gospel is displayed in forgiveness

2 Corinthians 2:10

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Colossians 3:12-13

¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.



"The issue of church discipline is a difficult one, and the danger is that we will go to one extreme or the other. On the one hand, we may not want to do anything when someone is guilty of an offense that brings disgrace upon or disrupts the community. We will bury our heads in the sand and hope that all the unpleasantness will soon go away. Or we may try to substitute cheap grace for real grace by letting bygones be bygones without signs of genuine repentance...

"On the other hand, we may be tempted to go too far in discipline so that it becomes destructive rather than constructive. We may try to turn the one who is condemned into a scapegoat and inappropriately cover up our own hidden sins by taking out our anger on this victim. Hughes correctly recognizes that it is "no less a scandal" to ban a penitent sinner forever from the redeemed and reconciled community as it is to wink at flagrant wickedness."

~ Garland, D. E. (2001). *Vol.* 29: 2 *Corinthians*. The New American Commentary (128). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

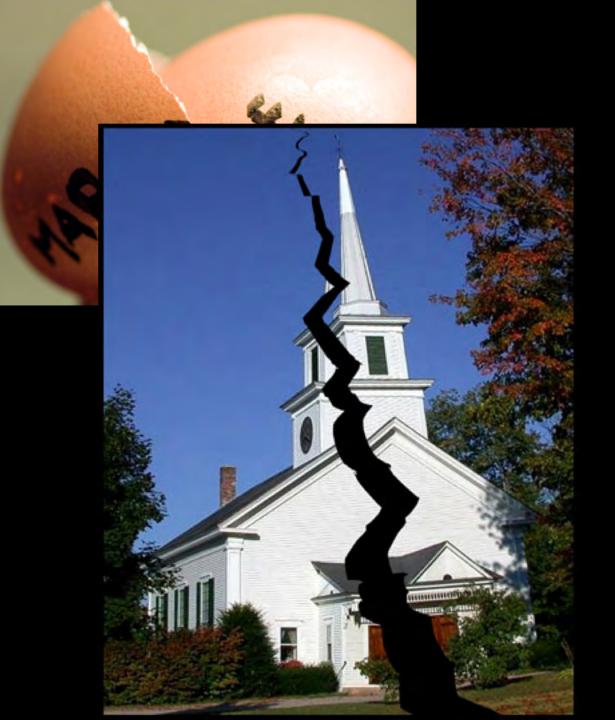
6. Our enemy delights in unforgiveness

2 Corinthians 2:11

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Romans 16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

Is there anyone you need to forgive?

Is there anyone you need to forgive?

Is there anyone you need to gently correct?

Is there anyone you need to forgive?

Is there anyone you need to gently correct?

Is there anyone you need to seek forgiveness from?