

DAY 28: FORGIVENESS

Recently my 2nd period leadership class lured me away from my lesson plan with some really good questions on the topic of forgiveness. It was one of those discussions that just kept building and I went with the flow until this question was asked by a quiet but intense girl in the second row: "What if a person doesn't deserve to be forgiven?"

The room was quiet as I stared at her and then looked down at the floor.

Strangely, I felt myself beginning to choke up a bit as I considered a response to her question; then I looked up and asked, "Does anyone truly deserve to be forgiven?" In saying this I realized how many times in my own life I had been forgiven fully knowing I didn't deserve to be treated so well. We went on to discuss how forgiveness is more often for the person doing the forgiving than for the person receiving it.

A quote from an unknown author says it well: "Forgiveness does not always lead to a healed relationship. Some people are not capable of love, and it might be wise to let them go, along with your anger. Wish them well and let them go their way. It doesn't matter if the person who hurt you deserves to be forgiven. Forgiveness is a gift you give yourself. You have things to do and you want to move on."

Well said. Knowing that resentment, or unforgiveness, destroys the human personality, we would all do well to forgive whether we feel someone deserves it or not. It'll keep us from becoming twisted and diseased by resentment and therefore make us much more capable of being true servant leaders.

WE DARE YOU TO...

Forgive someone who doesn't deserve it. Let your anger go, and move on from that person. Untangle yourself from a relationship that may be poisoning you.

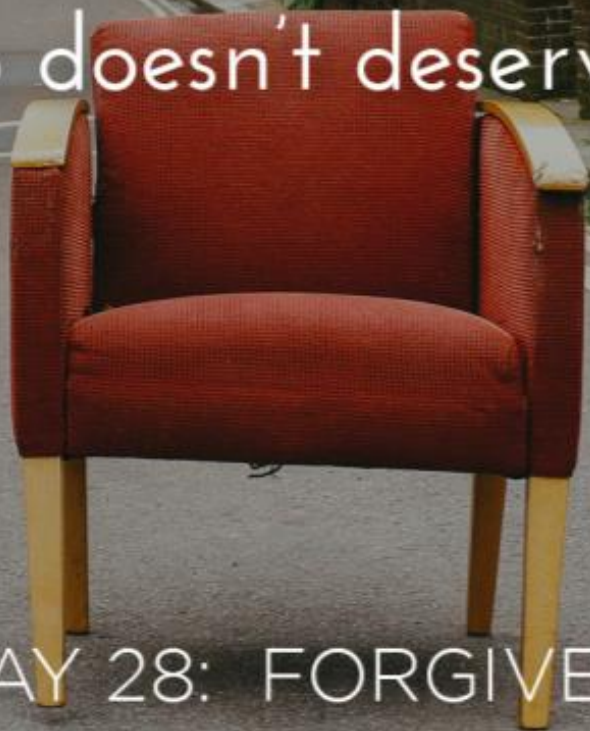
"Anger makes you smaller, while forgiveness forces you to grow beyond what you were."

- Cherie Carter-Scott



Forgive Someone

who doesn't deserve it



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