

SATAN DEVOTIONAL STUDY GUIDE

... at a level of truth and when we are faithless. He walks at a level of truth and when we are faithless. So when Jesus said, "I am the Father in heaven forgive us," He meant it.

... what Jesus had to say about forgiveness in the Gospels.

... 14-15

... on we forgive others, we will receive forgiveness

... when we condemn others, it will come back against us.

... w 6:12

... re will be forgiven as we forgive others against us.

... you taking Jesus seriously? Are you forgiving others so that you can receive forgiveness? When your heart is filled with unforgiveness, there is no room in it to receive God's forgiveness.

WRITE A PRAYER...

... God to enable you to truly forgive the people who have offended you so that you will be able to receive God's forgiveness.

... Lord I pray for forgiveness in my heart. I pray to be forgiven

ow do we know what freedoms and rights we need to set aside in order to win others to Christ? I suggest applying what I call the "edification test."

the apostle Paul, in writing to the Romans, summed up the heart of the matter: "Therefore let us pursue the things which make peace and the things by which one may edify another" (Rom. 14:19). That we do may even be permissible according to the Scriptures. Ask yourself: Does it seek the edification of another or myself? the following passage slowly. Underline every part that is hard for you to do. Circle the part that you need to start doing immediately.

things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things lawful for me, but not all things edify. Let no one seek his own, but the other's well-being. . . . Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, just as I please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

—1 CORINTHIANS 10:23-24, 31-33

the Holy Spirit to funnel every area of your life through the Scripture passage. Allow Him to show you any hidden motives that are for your profit and not for the profit of others. No matter what area of life you might embrace, accept His challenge to be a servant of all.

WRITE A PRAYER . . .

the Lord to show you anything in your life that may be a stumbling block to others, and then remove it.

I pray that you reveal to me anything that is blocking me from getting me closer to you

FORGIVENESS: YOU DON'T GIVE—YOU DON'T GET

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses. —MARK 11:24-26

Read chapter 11, stopping at the heading "The Unforgiving Servant."

LET'S TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF REFUSING to let go of offense and how to get free from offense. Jesus meant what He said: "But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."

We live in a culture where we don't always mean what we say. Consequently we do not believe others mean what they say to us. A person's word is not taken seriously.

Consequently we do not believe others mean what they say to us. A person's word is not taken seriously. A parent tells a child, "If you do that again, it begins in childhood." The child not only does it again but several times more after that. Following each episode the child receives the same warning from his parent. Usually no corrective action is taken. If correction does take place, it is either lighter than what was promised or more severe because the parent is frustrated.

Are you forgiving others so that you might receive forgiveness?

But when Jesus speaks, He wants us to take Him seriously. We cannot view what He says the way we view the other authorities or relations in our lives. When He says something, He means it. He is

ST WE OFFEND THEM

Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.
—ROMANS 14:13

For 10, stopping at the heading "Laying Down Our

MANY PEOPLE WERE OFFENDED AT JESUS, HE NEVER in offense by asserting His personal rights or benefits. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:4). The key phrase ever humbles himself." A little later Jesus amplified this:

sires to become great among you, let him be your servant. r desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— on of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to a ransom for many.

—MATTHEW 20:26-28

ement! Jesus did not come to be served but to serve. n of God. He was free. He owed no one anything. He no man. Yet He chose to use His liberty and freedom

us chose to use His liberty and freedom to serve.

ng passages, and jot down what each Scripture teaches

we cannot be serving two masters
in our life.

Luke 22:26

we should be last & a servant
in order to be first

John 12:26

we must know the Father &
be where He is.

Romans 7:6

we are released from the
law & live in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:13

we must use our love to serve
one another

Philippians 2:5-11

we must humble ourselves
before God

Notice that Paul emphasizes in Galatians 5:13 that we have been given the privilege or the opportunity to serve one another. We are not to use our liberty or privileges as children of the living God to serve ourselves. Liberty is to be used to serve others. There is freedom in serving but bondage in slavery. A slave is one who has to serve, while one who lives to serve.

have seen many Christians serve with a resentful attitude. They grudgingly and complain as they pay their taxes. They still live slaves to a law from which they have been set free. They remain slaves in their hearts.

WRITE A PRAYER ...

ouncing slavery to the world and surrendering yourself to be Christ's servant.

and i surrender my life use
me for your kingdom & not
for this world

LAYING DOWN OUR RIGHTS

But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak.

—1 CORINTHIANS 8:9

—1 beginning with the heading

Read the remainder of chapter 10, beginning with the heading "Laying Down Our Rights."

OUR LIBERTY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO US FOR SERVING AND LAYING DOWN our lives. We are to build and not destroy, to edify and not tear down. This liberty was not given to enable us to heap gain upon ourselves. Because we have used it in this manner, many today are offended by the lifestyles of Christians. We may have the freedom in Christ to do many things, but if something will offend another person, then we must carefully consider voluntarily limiting ourselves in order to witness to others.

Do the things I do seek the edification of another or myself?

Make a list of things that you have voluntarily block to others. will not offend or be a stumbling block to others.

So as not to offend:

I have given up the right to:
be offended
have witness personal / ask for forgiveness

He has already done for us. Those who become offended do not fully realize how great a debt He has already paid for their freedom. They have forgotten from what manner of death they were delivered. They see through natural eyes rather than eternal.

Are you serving the Lord out of pride, self-confidence, or the hope that He will reward you for your service with material things or an easy life?

Complete the following sentences:

My motivation for serving Christ is knowing where have

i been & what he took me out of.

My confidence rests in knowing he has a plan for

me so i should worry about nothing

The reward I expect from Him is eternal life

We can do nothing of eternal value in our own ability.

WRITE A PRAYER ...

Asking the Lord to purify your heart and to take away all confidence in your flesh.

Lord Remove all desires from my flesh

so i can live in your spirit & so i

can put my hope in you.

THE ROCK OF OFFENSE

"Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone," and "a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

—1 PETER 2:6-8

[Read chapter 9.]

TODAY THE MEANING OF THE WORD BELIEVE HAS BEEN WEAKENED. In the eyes of most it has become a mere acknowledgment of a certain fact. To many it has nothing to do with obedience. But in the passage above, the words *believe* and *disobedient* are represented as opposites.

The Scriptures exhort "that whoever believes in Him [Jesus Christ] should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

As a result of the way we view the word *believe*, many think that all they are required to do is believe that Jesus existed and died on Calvary to be in good standing with God. If this were the only requirement, the demons would be in good standing with Him, for the Scriptures also say, "You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!" (James 2:19). Yet, there is no salvation for them.

Complete these sentences:

For me, faith is trusting in what i cant see.

...s, obedience is doing what im called to
even when its uncomfortable

If believe and do not obey, then there is no
salvation

word *believe* has more meaning in the Scriptures than that of acknowledging the existence of or mentally assenting to a fact. Being true to the context of the verse above, we can say that the element of believing is obedience. We could read it this way: *...ore, to you who obey, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief stone,' and 'a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.'*"

...love is the bottom line in our relationship with the Lord—not love of principles or teachings, but love for the Person of Jesus Christ.

...not difficult to obey when you know the character and love of to whom you are submitting. Love is the bottom line in our relationship with the Lord—not love of principles or teachings, but the Person of Jesus Christ. If that love is not firmly in place, susceptible to offense and to stumbling.

...you live in obedience to the will of God, you will not fulfill the desires of men. As a result, you will suffer in the flesh. Jesus His greatest opposition from the religious leaders. Religious believe God operates only within the confines of their parameters. The Master offended religious people as He was led by the thousand years ago, those who follow Him today will

When others are offended with me living for Christ, I will know
that im living in the will of God

Paul wrote: "The fact that the cross is the only way to salvation offends people, but that is the truth, and there's no way I'm going to preach anything else!" (See Galatians 5:11). If anyone challenges the truth of the gospel, it is time to be offensive without apology. We must determine in our hearts that we will obey the Spirit of God no matter the cost.

WRITE A PRAYER...

Telling Christ that you will trust, love, and obey Him.

Lord thank you for everything I
trust you with all my heart I will
continue to seek, love + obey you Amen