

QUIETING A NOISY SOUL

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Part Three: The Way Out

Session 15a

Dealing with the Other Side of the Wedge

“Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:31-32

- ☞ When somebody has wronged us, there is a God-honoring way to deal with the offense (his side of the wedge, **Figure 3**). He must be confronted about his offense so that he can ask forgiveness and so that you can grant it, thus restoring the relationship.

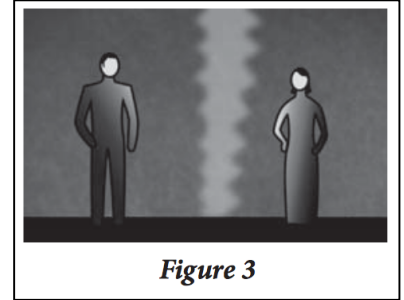


Figure 3

Steps to Granting Forgiveness to Others:

1. Actions to take toward _____
 - a. Surrender to God your assumed right to demand “_____.”
 - ☞ Matthew 6:14-15; 18:21-35; Mark 11:25-26; Romans 12:17-20
 - b. Pray for the offender’s _____.
 - ☞ Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 23:34; Acts 7:60
2. Actions to take toward the _____
 - a. Feed your _____ while he is estranged.
 - ☞ Romans 12:20-21; I Samuel 24:17
 - b. _____ the offender in meekness.
 - 1) If the offense is a personal offense against you, see him _____. The purpose is to “gain your brother” (Matthew 18:15). The purpose of the rebuke is to help the other person see his offense so that he will ask you and God to forgive him.

CONCLUSION: The loudest noises in the soul are the agitations of a guilty conscience. “The Way Out” starts with confession and cleansing so that we can have *“a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men” (Acts 24:16).*

Your soul is not supposed to be at rest when it is at war with God. Isaiah 57:20-21 says, *“But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when **it cannot rest**, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. **There is no peace**, saith my God, to the wicked.”*