



*Why Not*  
**Forgive?**

You must have noticed that we human beings offend one another in diverse ways. In fact, as you are reading this, there may be someone who has offended you so seriously that you would have concluded that you would no longer have anything to do with him/her for life. One major fact of life is that YOU MUST BE OFFENDED! Maybe the one to whom you have been engaged to marry for so many years decided to dump you for a just discovered beautiful or promising partner, your spouse has committed adultery, your business partner has duped you, someone you have raised up has suddenly become your prime enemy, someone just decided to hate you for no reason, your spouse without your knowledge has bought land and built it up, your husband of many years has abandoned you for a new found love, you have just discovered that the boy that has been living with you as the last born of your spouse's parents is really her child. There are several other serious offences which you might have experienced. Maybe someone has even done something which has led to the death of a loved one.

Honestly for all the above offences, the tendency is for you to think of a more deadly act which you may use to retaliate. I mean, it is natural that as a human being you would want to retaliate. However, there are several problems with retaliation:

Firstly, as you are planning retaliation, you are destroying your health. It has been established that when you are experiencing anger, your heart is doing extra work and there are diverse problems that may arise including hypertension and mental disorder. Why are you destroying your health because of somebody who may not even be aware of what is going on in your mind?

Secondly, you may worsen the situation with your actions. For instance, if your spouse offends you and you decided to sue for divorce, you are creating a whole new set of problems for your family and the society.

Thirdly, retaliation is a sure way to miss heaven. Do you know that even if there is need to retaliate, God can do it better for you?

Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

If he is thirsty, give him a drink;

For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." (**Rom.12:19-20**). In a way which will actually surprise you, God can fight your battles for you if you allow Him.

Go ahead and forgive whoever has offended you, because you are not even capable of fighting your battles effectively. It may be difficult, but it is possible to forgive. It may look like cheating on your part, but God is more than able to compensate you, if you can forgive. It may look as if the consequent loss is great, but God is able to take care of your interest if you will forgive.

Go ahead now and forgive because unforgiveness will prevent your spiritual advancement and even prevent you from making heaven.

# HOW TO MAKE HEAVEN YOUR HOME

**ABIDING GRACE  
E-TRACT 019**

Pray this prayer from your heart

"My Father in heaven,

I know that I am a sinner.

I believe that Jesus Christ, your Son died on the cross for my sin and rose from the dead to be my Lord. I now repent of my sin and invite the Lord

Jesus into my heart.

Thank you for the wonderful gift of eternal life!

I will live for you as you reveal yourself to me in your word, the Bible.

In Jesus name I pray"

**After the prayer, ensure that you attend a Bible based church so as to fellowship with other believers.**

For more other relevant e-tracts visit  
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