



CTO **FORGIVENESS** PROCESS



For an individual

STEP 1

FORGIVE the individual

Release an individual from your bitterness, judgment and/or wrath



UNCONDITIONAL
Between you and God

STEP 2

CONFESS your sin to God

Agree with God, acknowledge your sin and take responsibility for your actions / attitudes



UNCONDITIONAL
Between you and God

STEP 3

RECONCILE by seeking forgiveness

Seek forgiveness for your sin against him/her



CONDITIONAL
Requires both parties

Although we are commanded to *reconcile*, we are not commanded to *restore* a relationship to what it previously was. (Matt. 5:23-24)

In some cases restoration of the relationship may never happen or may be inappropriate.

ONGOING PROCESS

RESTORE

Over time demonstrate **repentance** and **restore trust**

Rebuild relationship where appropriate (Not all relationships should be restored)

FORBEAR

Forbear with offenses when appropriate

Some sins may need to be overlooked

ADMONISH

Biblically admonish when appropriate and when prompted by the Holy Spirit

Always forgive / reconcile before admonishing

FORGIVE

Forgive new offenses following steps 1-3

You will continue to be sinned against this side of heaven

Both parties must be willing to move forward in relationship and seek to restore trust.

It will be difficult to restore the relationship if there is no repentance.

If restoration does not happen, "...so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men." Rom. 12:18 NASB