

**A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**PROGRAM 39 (#910169)**

**WEEK 8 (910336)**

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## ***PRECEPTS FOR LIFE***

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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: A Marriage Without Regrets**

**TITLE: Program 39 – My Mate Has Committed Adultery. How Can I Forgive?**

### **THURSDAY**

#### **OPEN**

Your mate has committed adultery!! And in the midst of that discovery, there's a pleading, "Please forgive me. I don't know what got into me. I don't know why I did it. I don't know what possessed me. All I know is I don't want you to leave and I don't want a divorce. I am so sorry for what I have done." Where do you go then?

#### **PART ONE**

If that person is saying that they don't want divorce, then the best thing is to heal that schism. The best thing is to allow that marriage to be healed. Now I'm not talking about someone that says, "I didn't do anything wrong. There's nothing wrong with it. I'm sorry, I don't love you anymore." That's a different case. That's a different scenario. And we dealt with that. But what do you do if they say, "I want to stay with you. Will you forgive me?" The minute they ask you to forgive them, you may be thinking, then

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everything's going to be the same. No, everything will not necessarily be the same once you forgive. You may be thinking, I am so angry, I don't know how I can forgive. Well listen to me carefully. You are never more like God than when you forgive. Let me take you to Jeremiah, chapter 3. And let me show you how God talks to His faithless wife, Israel. He says in verse 12, "Go, and proclaim these words towards the north and say, 'Return, faithless Israel,' declares the Lord; 'I will not look on you in anger.'" Come back to Me. Come back to Me. "I will not look on you in anger. For I am gracious," declares the Lord; 'I will not be angry forever.'" Now there is an anger. There is an anger and it is a natural emotion. And there should be an anger toward sin. There should be an anger towards anything that hurts and wounds and is unjust and breaks God's commandments. That anger is a righteous anger. But He says, "I will not be angry forever." So in this forgiveness, you can forgive, even though there is an anger. And the anger is more directed at the violation than the violator. Now you're saying no. It is directed towards the violator. Well, that's okay. That's okay. It's natural. It's understandable. But, the Bible says in Ephesians, chapter 4, "Be angry and do not sin. Don't let the sun go down on your wrath." Deal with that anger. Now He goes on to say, this is what the wounder is to do. He says, "Only acknowledge your iniquity, that you have transgressed against the Lord your God." So He's saying "Return, faithless Israel. Return to Me. I will not be angry forever, but there is one thing I want you to do. I do want you to acknowledge your iniquity. I do want you to acknowledge the fact that you have transgressed against Me. You have scattered your favors to the strangers under every green tree." In other words, you've had these lovers and "...you have not obeyed My voice," declares the Lord." So when you forgive, that person that's about to be forgiven needs to say to you, "I have sinned against you. I have violated you. I have broken our trust. I have done what is wrong and I am asking you to forgive me." And so there needs to be that statement. And you need to hear it clearly. You need to hear it and look

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at them and look at their face and put it in your mind, so that in the future, when you start to think about this whole thing, you remember that moment. You remember that time when your husband or your wife turned and looked at you and said, “I am sorry.” So God is saying, “Return.” And God is saying, I will forgive you. Now look at Ezekiel, chapter 16, because in Ezekiel 16, he’s talking about her wickedness. He’s talking about the fact that she has played the harlot with every stranger that came by, that she has spread her legs and that is scripture, to every passer-by. I mean, with God, it hasn’t been one other lover or two other lovers. It has been multiplied idolatry, multiplied adultery because idolatry and adultery are one in the same to God, because the minute that they worship an idol, then God says that that is spiritual adultery. So they’ve gone from one to another to another to another. They have multiplied their harlotries and still God forgives. And listen to what He says. He says in verse 59, “I also will do with you as you have done, you who have despised the oath by breaking [My] covenant. Nevertheless, nevertheless, I will remember My covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you.” I remember what you did. I remember our covenant. And I want you to know, I’m going to forgive you and I’m going to establish an everlasting covenant with you. So your mate needs to say to you, “I’m promising you before God, I’m not going to commit adultery again. I am establishing an everlasting covenant with you.” And then God says in verse 62, “Thus I will establish My covenant with you, and you shall know that I am the Lord, in order that you may remember and be ashamed, and never open your mouth anymore because of your humiliation, when I have forgiven you for all that you have done,” the Lord declares.” So God says, “I’m going to forgive you. But I want you to remember and I want you to be ashamed.” And listen, we should be ashamed of our sin. I know that I am absolutely, totally, completely forgiven for my adultery before I became a child of God. I know I’m absolutely forgiven every time that I sin and I ask God to forgive me. I

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know that I'm forgiven. But I want to tell you, there is a shame that goes with my sin. And I am ashamed of the way that I've lived. Listen, it's good to be ashamed for sin because it shows that you have the right attitude. All right, now, where do you go from there? I want you to go to Ephesians, as we talk about forgiveness. What do you need to know about forgiving? What do you need to understand? Well, let's look at it, Ephesians, chapter 4. In Ephesians, chapter 4, this is what he says in verse 31. "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ has also forgiven you." Now let's stop there for a minute and just say this. All right, your mate has come to you. They have asked for forgiveness. Underline it in verse 32, of Ephesians, chapter 4. You do it "...just as God in Christ Jesus has forgiven you." Remember when Jesus was hanging on the cross? And remember that these men were standing below Him and they were saying, "Aha, You came to save others. Save Yourself. Get Yourself down off that cross. Ha, You're the Son of God, You say. If God's pleased with You, why does He have You on the cross? Let Him bring You down." So they railed at Him. And they were like the bulls of Bashan around a prey. And what does Jesus say to the Father? "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." He not only died for Mary, His mother, standing at the foot of that cross, and Mary Magdalene and the disciples, but He died for those that railed against Him. He died for Judas that betrayed Him. He said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." If we really understood the awfulness of adultery, if we really understood the ramifications of immorality, if we really could get a view from heaven of what it does, not only to us and not only to the one that we've been immoral with, but to our mate and to our children and to our society and to our land, then I promise you, we would have God's perspective on it. When He said, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do," we would know if we had known what we were doing, we

never would have done it. Even that mate that does not repent, even that mate that is going to go off and live with the one that they just had an affair with or shack up with them and then a little while later, move on to another person. Some day, that mate is going to stand before a holy God and he or she is going to give an answer for the deeds done in their body and they are then going to hear, because they did not repent, because they did not receive Jesus Christ, they're going to hear, "Depart from Me into everlasting fire." And they're going to live for all eternity in flames and torment where the worm dies not and the fire is not quenched. And they are going to live in that situation, remembering the past. Now, if you don't forgive, as God in Christ Jesus has forgiven you, you are going to regret it someday because even if you're a believer and you stand before Jesus Christ, you're going to stand at the judgment seat of Christ. And you're going to give an account for the deeds that you, as a Christian, did in your body. 2 Corinthians, chapter 5, verse 10 says, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, to give an answer for the deeds done in our body whether they be good, or whether they be bad." And listen very carefully; if you refuse to forgive, that is a bad deed. That is refusing to do what God says. And you are never more like God, and like Christ, than when you are willing to forgive.

## **PART TWO**

You are to be like Jesus. You know, once our sins are forgiven, God never mentions them again. He removes them as far as the east is from the west. He puts them behind His back. Listen carefully. He remembers them no more. So you have to do it as Christ did it. And it is a sacrifice. It means, it's putting your emotions, your evaluation, your hurt, your wounds, your disappointment, your bitterness, all on the altar and saying, "God, I am sacrificing all these things to be like Jesus." Now, go to Matthew, chapter 6, in Matthew, chapter 6, in the Lord's Prayer. If you've ever been to church and you may never have been to church. This may be all new to you. But I

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want you to know, you're listening because we prayed you would listen, because God has a message for you. But in Matthew, chapter 6, in the Lord's Prayer, part of the Lord's Prayer is this, "And forgive us our debtors...", those that owe us something. Your mate just transgressed your covenant relationship. They owe you a debt. And God says we are to forgive our debtors just as God forgave our debts. There it is, "...forgive us our debts, or forgive us our trespasses, as we have forgiven our debtors." You're saying, "God, I want you to forgive me to the same degree that I've forgiven others." So if you refuse to forgive, then you can't ask God to forgive you. You cannot ask God to forgive you. Now listen, when He finishes the Lord's Prayer, He knows that this just stops people dead in their tracks, so He says, "If you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." Do you want to be forgiven in the future? Do you think you'll ever sin against God, or against your children, or against your husband? Do you want forgiveness? Then you better give forgiveness because you have a person that has repented. You have a person that has a godly sorrow. You have a person that has recognized their sin and confessed their sin and iniquity and you need to forgive. Now listen, the word "forgive" is a word that means to send away. You're going to send it away. You're not going to bring it up. You're not going to harp on it. And why are you not going to bring it up? Because you're going to be like God. And you're going to forgive. And in that, beloved, you are going to be blessed of God. You want the marriage healed. If you don't want the marriage healed, you're really not thinking clearly. But you want the marriage healed because this is to the glory of God. And this is to the benefit of you and it's to the benefit of your husband. Listen, when you divorce and then you remarry, believe me, second marriages have a higher divorce rate than first marriages. And not only that, but there's going to be an awful terrible adjustment and there is and I hear it over and over and over again. "I wish I had not gotten

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remarried. It has been so hard and so difficult.” Because all of a sudden you have someone else raising your children. You have someone else to adjust to. You have someone else to become one flesh with and one in your thinking and in your marriage. I’m telling you, it is a tangled mess, all the divorces and all the remarriages. You need to forgive. Matthew, chapter 18, In Matthew, chapter 18, Peter comes to Jesus and he says, “Okay, how many times should I forgive my brother if he sins against me? Should it be seven times, up to seven times?” And Jesus said, “No, it should be seven times seventy.” Now that’s 490 times. Who’s going to keep track? And then He tells a story. He tells a story of a king who was going to settle accounts. And a man is brought before him because he owes him like 10 million dollars in silver. And the man, he says, “Put him in prison. He can’t pay his debt.” And the man falls before the king and he says, “Forgive me, I’ll repay.” Now there’s no way he’s ever going to repay. It’s beyond him to ever repay 10 million dollars in that day. It’s beyond him. But the king has mercy on that man and the king forgives that man. And you know the joy of that man. That man’s forgiven. He walks away. He sees a man that owes him some money and he grabs that man and he says, “Pay me back what you owe me.” And so his fellow slave falls down and begins to entreat him saying, “Have patience with me and I will repay you.” And he certainly could repay him because it’s only one day’s wage that he owes him. Now he’s been forgiven a 10 million dollar debt and he’s grabbing this guy by the throat that owes him a day’s wages and he says, “Pay me right now.” And the guy’s saying, “Look, forgive me. I will pay you.” And he says, “You pay me right now or you’re going to get it.” And it says, “He was unwilling however,” to forgive him. But he went and threw him in prison until he could pay back what he was owed. “So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and they came and reported to their lord all that had happened. Then summoning him...” This is the king that had just forgiven him. The others are watching and saying, “Wait a minute. He just got forgiven 10 million

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dollars. He was walking sky high. I mean he was so off the earth because of the forgiveness and not having to pay that debt. Look at what he did. King, look at what he did and you just forgave him.” And the king says, “Call him back.” So he brings the man back and he says, “Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, even as I had mercy on you?” And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over...,” now listen carefully “...to the torturers until he would pay back all that he would owe.” He missed being forgiven 10 million dollars because he would not forgive a man one day’s wage. And he turned him over to the torturers. Now this is the bottom line. Jesus is telling this story. Jesus is answering Peter, “How many times do I forgive?” And He says, verse 35, “So...,” so bottom line, “...shall My heavenly Father do to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from his heart.” What do you need to do? You need to forgive your mate who has confessed, who has repented. You need to forgive your mate from your heart. And if you won’t forgive your mate from your heart, you know what’s going to happen? God’s going to draw back from you. And you know what? You’re going to be handed over to the torturers. Because when you refuse to forgive, beloved, you’re the one that’s held in bondage, not the other person. So you need to let that bitterness go. You need to let that anger go. And you need to forgive as God forgave you. And you need to do everything that you can to restore that marriage. And you say, what else do I need to do? I’m so glad you asked because I’m not finished and I’m going to tell you what else you need to do so that this marriage can be restored, so that this marriage can be a healthy marriage and a solid marriage, so that there can be a testimony of the grace of God. Precious One, listen to me again, you are never more like God or more like Jesus than when you forgive. It is the glory of a person to forgive another’s transgression and it is heaven to be forgiven by God.