

November 8, 2015

HARD TO SAY I'M SORRY

The New Testament tells us again and again that we are to forgive one another and confess our sins to another, and it implies that there is a kind of give-and-take to the way we forgive one another in relationships.

THREE SOBERING CAN'T'S

1. You can't _____ anything.

If you keep in mind that you can't undo what you do and you can't unsay what you say, you'll need to ask for forgiveness less often in the future; you may learn to get better at not doing it to begin with.

2. You can't control someone's _____ to forgive.

If you have offended someone, it's up to you to ask forgiveness. When you ask, they may forgive you or they may not forgive you.

3. You can't _____ it. Ref: Matthew 5:23-24

Jesus is saying that before you cozy up to God on Sunday morning, before you attempt to bless him or seek to be blessed by him, you need to make sure that you've made things right with anyone you have wronged. Ref: Romans 12:18

When you're the offender, you need to make the first move toward reconciliation. Step #8

WHAT WE WANT TO SEE HAPPEN

1. Seek to accomplish _____.

If a relationship is broken, or even strained, you need to do what you can to remove the obstacle that stands between you and the other person, and most of the time this can happen with a simple apology.

2. Seek to arrange _____.

Restitution means that you're willing to do what you have to do in order to make things right and to bring things back into balance.

3. Seek to achieve full _____.

ASKING FOR FORGIVENESS

1. Take ownership of your actions.

2. Take ownership of the follow-up.

3. Take ownership of the outcome.

God's forgiveness is already available to each and every one of us, in addition to God's forgiveness; we need to forgive each other. You can't be right with God and stay wrong with others. Ref: 1 John 1:9