

Philip Hardin: good morning, welcome to men's roundtable.

Philip Hardin: Glad you're here.

Philip Hardin: You can hear it.

Philip Hardin: What a week to be back here, man! After last week you missed all the excitement in the room, at least in this.

Philip Hardin: We had a guest speaker here, you know. There's one of disappointing guests, Baker. We don't discipline the out in the room, either. Jeff Cook was not here. Jeff Stout was not here.

Philip Hardin: Mark and I were working on the Sound for a little while in the video kind of figured out,

Philip Hardin: you guys. Um, man, I Well, okay, a couple things First of all

Philip Hardin: your camp.

It happened

Philip Hardin: sixteenth, weekend after this

Philip Hardin: this weekend, dear Camp Alumni, We're doing a work day trying to clean up around the construction area of a new building. If you're available to spend some time on Saturday morning, please go up, job. She's kind of coordinating that you'll show up. We'll give you a a job in the Silent to help you help clean up and get ready for their campers. Ah! In a week and a half in night.

Philip Hardin: Your camp Sixteenth of September. If you have not been, please, I encourage you. Please Please attend. Go online and register for,

is it?

Yes,

Philip Hardin: I don't know if it is or not. You have a question. I just work here. I'm not sure.

We're going to find out.

Philip Hardin: Yeah, there it is.

Philip Hardin: Yes, there we go, There we go. So where's the link?

We have a new website.

Where is it?

Philip Hardin: You can check the

Philip Hardin: Yeah, I was good.

Philip Hardin: It's in. It's on this page somewhere,

but

workshops

Philip Hardin: under the workshops.

Philip Hardin: You're in the right place. Yeah, there we go.

Philip Hardin: I'm in touch

men's coaching with you.

Philip Hardin: Look there!

Philip Hardin: It's just like

Philip Hardin: then somewhere around here

Philip Hardin: the individual

it's not.

Philip Hardin: It's all near somewhere.

Philip Hardin: That's right,

Philip Hardin: all right. If all the else feels

Philip Hardin: guys uh, I was reminded this morning. There are some cards out of the table. Did you come in when you sign in?

Philip Hardin: If you've got somebody, a friend, you may know, acquainted somebody at work, and we want to invite them to Men's Round Table information on the front in the back of this There's a little card just to remind you about the

Philip Hardin: Give him some information about it.

Philip Hardin: We're wrapping up the series on true face today,

Philip Hardin: or removing the mask,

Philip Hardin: I feel it starts a new series next week. It a great time to invite a friend would love to have the room filled up with men eager to learn.

Philip Hardin: I you know I I always try to have something to play when I what I

Philip Hardin: On Thursday mornings, and this morning I was struggling for a little bit, so God gave me some information this morning. Not the kind of I wanted to have.

Philip Hardin: True face

Philip Hardin: behind the Matt,

Philip Hardin: young man, is a related by

Philip Hardin: younger son.

Philip Hardin: It's kind of in a in a battle right now. In struggle, he and his fiancée broke off their pending ah wedding, and I got a text message coming in this morning that his dad passed away as he and his mom were trying to get to the hospital to see him before he passed.

Philip Hardin: I'll mention him on a prayer. But what do you do

Philip Hardin: when the world is coming down around you?

Philip Hardin: That's what this whole series have been about.

Philip Hardin: If you're in hiding,

Philip Hardin: where do you go? If you've hidden from God

Philip Hardin: when the enemy has piled everything in.

Philip Hardin: I was talking to a guy earlier this week at lunch,

Philip Hardin: and he was on a challenge. He's had some health issues this year.

Philip Hardin: He lost his dad, and he was with his mom, who's in in bad health,

Philip Hardin: was at their home down in the fair Hope area of Alabama.

Philip Hardin: She wanted to stay. She want to stay in her home place. They grew up as missionaries, and she wanted to be there.

Philip Hardin: And Drew said, Man, I didn't know what to do, and I didn't know what to say. And he said, Yeah, I grew up with parents who were missionaries, he said. I've always been in the Bible. I've always been a believer.

Philip Hardin: But my walk with God has not been as close as it should be,

Philip Hardin: and he said the only thing I could think of at the time,

Philip Hardin: because I just whispered to my mom if she wanted to stay, and I knew she couldn't stay because she had fallen

Philip Hardin: in Jesus night

Philip Hardin: in Jesus name

Philip Hardin: in Jesus name,

Philip Hardin: in Jesus name.

Philip Hardin: She began to stand up, and in Jesus name

Philip Hardin: she started moving a walker,

Philip Hardin: and in Jesus name

Philip Hardin: she walked out of the house,

Philip Hardin: and in Jesus name she made it across the yard.

Philip Hardin: In Jesus name. She made it in an iron.

Philip Hardin: In Jesus name,

Philip Hardin: you're hiding from Jesus. If you're hiding from God, if you're behind the mask, you

Philip Hardin: the Yukawa.

Where do you go to remove the mask?

Philip Hardin: It's been teased out here for the last several weeks.

Philip Hardin: Deer Camp is a voice.

Philip Hardin: I invite you sincerely to Deercamp The.

Philip Hardin: To join with other men to sit in a circle

Philip Hardin: to remove a mask.

Philip Hardin: My brother Sam, I see you in a totally different light after deer camping after a trip to South Dakota

Philip Hardin: love you dearly.

Philip Hardin: It's a great time. It's a place to connect

Philip Hardin: a place to meet men

Philip Hardin: for the Horn.

Philip Hardin: You're my father.

I thank you for this day,

Philip Hardin: or I pray specifically for the Watkins family.

Philip Hardin: Pray for my brother. I pray for my sister

Philip Hardin: as they face the sing of their

Philip Hardin: in Jesus name

Philip Hardin: be with them

Philip Hardin: in Jesus name be with us.

Philip Hardin: Your work on the cross reconciled us to God the Father.

Philip Hardin: Thank you so much for that.

Philip Hardin: In your name give us the strength

Philip Hardin: in your name. Give us peace

Philip Hardin: in your name. Give us comfort

Philip Hardin: in your name,

Philip Hardin: I mean.

Philip Hardin: Thank you, Joe.

Philip Hardin: Right now.

Philip Hardin: I'm going to show a clip out of the green mile.

Philip Hardin: Ah,

Philip Hardin: I'm okay. I didn't hurt you. Just woke me up.

Philip Hardin: Good morning, gentlemen. It is good to be back with you after a trip to Tennessee to be with papa and watch the first Tennessee football game go Walls Rocky top,

Philip Hardin: and appreciate Ben and Ron pitch hitting last week they do a great job so good that to know that you're in good hands with them.

Philip Hardin: I wanted to reiterate two things that that Joe mentioned

Philip Hardin: again. We need some help. Kind of clearing up um Ebenezer place for next weekend for deercam. So if you can come up and just clear clutter and all the construction site Eight Am. To noon. It would be a great time to be up there, and Josh is coordinating all that. So appreciate that. And then

Philip Hardin: certainly next weekend I want you to come the deer camp, if you've never been. If you have been alumni, come and support the new guys,

Philip Hardin: but certainly there's a couple of spots left for new guys, and if you've never been, give yourself a gift to sit in the circle of men that will support you, and I sure you will take you to a new level of growth

Philip Hardin: and commitment to the Lord Jesus. So give yourself a gift

Philip Hardin: this morning. I want to finish off our series that we've been working through all summer. Normally after Labor Day I would start a new series,

Philip Hardin: but I ran out of time during the summer to cover this topic this morning, so I stretched it past Labor Day because I did not want to miss talking about this critical topic that we're going to talk about today,

Philip Hardin: and we've been using this book as a resource. A true face by Bill Thrall, Bruce, Mcnichol and John Lynch and I.

Philip Hardin: I can only encourage you to read this book. It's a great book, and I've just kind of been hitting some of the highlights out of each chapter, and throwing in a little bit of my own personal twist on it.

Philip Hardin: But the topic that we're looking at this morning

Philip Hardin: is forgiveness,

Philip Hardin: the mysterious gift of forgiveness.

Philip Hardin: Want you to think for a minute what makes forgiveness so mysterious?

Philip Hardin: Why would Bill thrall

Philip Hardin: Bruce Mcnichol and John Lynch in title, this chapter that we're going through today the mysterious gift of forgiveness.

Philip Hardin: Think about that as we listen to the song, and we'll tease that out this morning. But amazing grace, it truly is amazing. Now you hear the voice of God, and make you open our hearts to what He has this morning

to you.

That's

it, was grace That's right,

and grace my fears

you

how

he's a

my shades, are you?

And said,

My God,

his mercy!

You

has promised

to me

in this world,

my whole

secure,

and you

for me,

as you

as I can do

I, my

you,

some of me



Philip Hardin: of these

I you

on my

you,

the

the earth chassis

dissolve like snow.

I you

will be, for it

will be

for red.

You are

for

you,

Philip Hardin: and then

Philip Hardin: be on the alert. Stand firm in your faith.

Philip Hardin: Act like men. Be strong. First, Corinthians, one thousand six hundred and thirteen.

Philip Hardin: Let's dig into our last session in this series. Pick up your notes there, and bottle with me as we read the introductory paragraph,

Philip Hardin: Free to be a man.

Philip Hardin: What What would it look like if you were truly free,

Philip Hardin: uninhabited to love

Philip Hardin: um

Philip Hardin: to repair it.

Philip Hardin: In other words, own your own failure.

Philip Hardin: Forgive

Philip Hardin: Those are the That's the trifecta that we've been looking at. We've covered love and repentance. Ah, the key to change! Ah, you're headed east. You need to go west. You're heading south. You need to go north, or maybe I just say, here you're headed north. You need to go south.

Philip Hardin: It's repentance. It's change, and then free to forgive.

Philip Hardin: I'm no longer bound by slavery and shackles to hold grudge and bitterness free to be a man. Take the mask off, and ride the open road of grace. Many men try to hide and pretend they're not broken.

Philip Hardin: But this only leads to more hiding, pretending, and despair, and nothing ever changes. We fear that God is almost never pleased

Philip Hardin: as one of the things that is, you know. You know, this being our first gathering after Labor Day. We're starting our fourteenth year here. If I've got that right? Isn't that right, Jeff. This is our fourteenth year, and if you're coming here

Philip Hardin: and you look back over your shoulder, and you can't see that you're growing and you're changing. Then you're taking up space in the room.

Philip Hardin: Okay,

Philip Hardin: yeah, that's right. You can't anybody else can leave.

Philip Hardin: But yeah, I mean, Actually, you've changed Dude Don't. Raise your hand. You're not getting out of here that easy,

Philip Hardin: but it's like this is about growing. This is not about coming to get a check, Mark, you know, is on my checklist. No, no, no, you come here, not because you have to come, and I love that. Nobody's forcing you to come. And it's like,

Philip Hardin: I truly believe, because I believe God moves in this place. If you're just now starting, and you commit to coming for ninety days,

Philip Hardin: and you'll listen to what we talk about here, and you'll start to work it into your life. Mix it into the ingredients of your life you will be different,

Philip Hardin: not because of me, not because of Jeff, not because of Joe, but the Spirit of God

Philip Hardin: is moving in this room,

Philip Hardin: as Myrtle said. Revival is going to break out in this place. Play that piano murder.

Philip Hardin: We've got to come to Deer Camp to understand that

Philip Hardin: this study will lead us into the light between two different underlying motives.

Philip Hardin: Our determination to please God

Philip Hardin: or to trust

Philip Hardin: one results in a striving that never feels it has done enough to please him, and the other results in a trust that experiences his full pleasure.

Why does Eric little run

Philip Hardin: to feel his pleasure?

Philip Hardin: Our motives as Jesus followers will either keep us enslaved, and are hiding or free us into God's adventure for our lives. Let's discover the open road of grace together,

Philip Hardin: right on.

Philip Hardin: I want you to be free,

Philip Hardin: free to love

Philip Hardin: You're free to acknowledge your failure and repent. Do something different. Don't. Keep doing the same stupid stuff over and over,

Philip Hardin: and then this mysterious gift

Philip Hardin: of forgiveness that we're looking at this morning.

Philip Hardin: Mysterious

Philip Hardin: Lloyd and Baba were having this debate,

Philip Hardin: and they were having this debate on what is the greatest invention

Philip Hardin: here

Philip Hardin: the greatest invention of, and Lloyd speaks of, and he says, By the the greatest invention

Philip Hardin: is the boat, I mean when that boat got made and there were rivers, it was like the freeway opened up in boats

Philip Hardin: led to all kinds of trade. The world changed. Boats were going down the highway rivers. The boat is the graves invention, and Bubble looks at him.

Philip Hardin: The boat's not the greatest envision. It's the airplane,

Philip Hardin: I mean. Think about it. Airplane could do everything that a boat could do but get there faster. Carry the world's goods. It's the airplane,

Philip Hardin: and Sally Sue walks up,

Philip Hardin: you know it always takes a woman to straighten these debates out,

Philip Hardin: and Sally Sue walked up, and she says, No, Lloyd, no, it's not the boat, and it's not the airplane

Philip Hardin: and Lloyd love looking at each other. What do you mean? It's the firmest,

Philip Hardin: and Sally students said, It's the thermost because it keeps hot things hot and cold things cold,

Philip Hardin: and Lord looks at father,

Philip Hardin: and he says,

Philip Hardin: But how do we know

on the

Philip Hardin: But how do we know

Philip Hardin: it's a mystery. It's a mystery,

Philip Hardin: because forgiveness is a mystery

Philip Hardin: in that.

Philip Hardin: When we have been hurt

Philip Hardin: we can stew and become bitter, and I make a living in many ways off a bitter people. Right, Marshall.

Philip Hardin: We see it all the time, and it's a mystery that you have. You're the one that's been hurt,

Philip Hardin: and you actually have the power, especially with the gospel empowered by Jesus, to actually extend that which is not earned or deserved to another person by extending grace and forgiveness to them, and that pries you.

Philip Hardin: It's a mystery. It's counterintuitive.

Philip Hardin: It's like, you know. You want to fold your arms like Ashley is back there right now,

Philip Hardin: and you want to

Philip Hardin: uh sit with your arms folded all the time and say, you know I want justice.

Philip Hardin: I won't jump, Dude, do never do never!

Philip Hardin: You never think that justice is

Philip Hardin: is going to bring you peace? Um, I mean I I certainly i'm glad that we've got a court system, and hopefully it works and all that. But but even when you see it on Tv, and they walk out of the court where we got justice. Do you think that they go home and find peace after that?

Philip Hardin: No,

Philip Hardin: justice does not bring peace?

Philip Hardin: So it's this idea

Philip Hardin: that when we are empowered to extend that which is not deserved.

Philip Hardin: We are the representatives of the true prophet, priest, and king, and we are his representatives as

Philip Hardin: a prophet, priest and king

Philip Hardin: that we have that ability

Philip Hardin: to extend grace.

Philip Hardin: It's it's a mystery how that works.

Philip Hardin: Look at Romans Chapter Five with me.

Philip Hardin: Romans Chapter five.

Philip Hardin: Okay,

Philip Hardin: I love this passage,

Philip Hardin: and when when we start Deer Camp, start our men's coaching weekend at some point in the very beginning we read this passage. Now listen to this:

Philip Hardin: The Romans five were twenty and twenty-one.

Philip Hardin: All that passing laws that get sinned in was produced more wall-breakers. The

Philip Hardin: we need more laws we need more laws. You know we've got. We've got lawless that's going on. We need more laws. No dude

Philip Hardin: that's not going to clean it up.

Philip Hardin: We need to enforce the laws for sure. But law does not bring freedom, but sin didn't and doesn't have a chance in competition with the aggressive forgiveness we call grace.

Philip Hardin: I hope that phrase is tattooed this morning on your heart. Aggressive

Philip Hardin: forgiveness.

Philip Hardin: We call a grace

Philip Hardin: aggressive forgiveness.

Philip Hardin: Assertive forgiveness

Philip Hardin: manly forgiveness

Philip Hardin: courageous forgiveness

Philip Hardin: it's when it's sin versus grace, grace wins hands down. All sin can do is threaten us with death, and that's the end of it. Grace, because God is putting everything together again through the Messiah, invites us into life a life that goes on and on and on world without it.

Philip Hardin: It's a mystery

Philip Hardin: that I can be hurt deeply, deeply hurt,

Philip Hardin: sinned against,

Philip Hardin: and I can be freed by extending forgiveness to somebody that doesn't deserve it.

Philip Hardin: But it actually

Philip Hardin: benefits me

Philip Hardin: whether they know that they've been forgiven or not,

Philip Hardin: Ian,

Philip Hardin: whether they've done anything

Philip Hardin: to make restitution, or even to own what they've done,

Philip Hardin: and we'll get into that more as we go through this,

Philip Hardin: pick up your pin. I've got three questions for you.

Philip Hardin: Let's go to work.

Philip Hardin: You didn't come here this morning to be passive.

Philip Hardin: Engage.

Philip Hardin: First question, Journal. This:

Philip Hardin: What has been your most profound experience with forgiveness?

Philip Hardin: When can you remember truly being forgiven,

Philip Hardin: whether you're a child or last week, or whenever

Philip Hardin: what's been your most profound experience with forgiveness,

Philip Hardin: and I'll shut up in which you write it down.

It's

Philip Hardin: when the Bible talks about forgiveness, it talks about

Philip Hardin: that we are to forgive as we have been forgiven,

Philip Hardin: and as I've set with hundreds of people through the years that cannot forgive

Philip Hardin: what happens is, as I understand it, That person who cannot forgive takes a grandiose position rather than seeing themselves equal to another, just as

Philip Hardin: wrong as the person who is wrong them. They take a grandiose position, a one up position, and they say, either literally or figuratively,

I would never do that.

Philip Hardin: I would never do that when that arrogance,

Philip Hardin: that pride, that grandiosity takes over

Philip Hardin: You're touched.

Philip Hardin: Because now you're stuck in misery, bitterness, judgment.

Philip Hardin: Yet the model that Scripture gives us about forgiveness is that we are to forgive,

Philip Hardin: as we have been forgiven by another.

In His name is Jesus.



Philip Hardin: One of the interesting things about forgiveness, and and many guys a lot smarter than I am, and Christian writers would would write it different than I do. But I don't believe that you can forgive yourself,

Philip Hardin: and that's That's how I see Scripture, because I don't see it in Scripture.

Philip Hardin: No, no, we're in Scripture.

Philip Hardin: Does it say? Forgive yourself

Philip Hardin: what it says in Scripture relative to forgiveness is to forgive how,

Philip Hardin: as you have been forgiven, if you ain't experienced it,

Philip Hardin: you are going to extend it.

Philip Hardin: And so, when we take a grandiose position because we've been hurt, and we say, you know I never do that that you've done at least that, if not worse, somebody else,

Philip Hardin: and that's the position of humility.

Philip Hardin: Yeah, you know, I didn't do exactly what that guy did.

Philip Hardin: But I've actually done something else just as bad, if if not worse.

Philip Hardin: And so if you've never had an experience of forgiveness, and hopefully what you wrote down on your piece of paper was when you came to Jesus.

Philip Hardin: When I came to Jesus it was a mess,

Philip Hardin: and I came to Jesus just so broken and just heaving, crying, and a friend of mine led me to the Lord, and you know i'd grown up in church and all that. But when I came truly broken I had nothing to offer,

Philip Hardin: and I cried out to the only the one that

Philip Hardin: Oh,

Philip Hardin: you could save me

Philip Hardin: and my dad before I

Philip Hardin: Ah! Before he had known what had happened, I remember my dad seeing me, and I was in a pretty crazy shade, and he looked at me, and he says, do you need to see a psychiatrist?

Philip Hardin: And I said, No, I just need to get my life right with God,

Philip Hardin: and I probably needed to see a psychiatrist, too, but I knew

Philip Hardin: that it wasn't my crazy head. It was my broken heart. I needed to be forgiven

Philip Hardin: the guys you. You will never be able to extend forgiveness until you have owned your own need for forgiveness. If you're sitting there this morning, and you're struggling with that relationship, that person you've been wrong. They judged you. It's not right,

Philip Hardin: and you can't let go of that.

Philip Hardin: You don't understand

Philip Hardin: just how broken you are and what Jesus did to bring forgiveness to your heart.

Philip Hardin: The only way you're going To be able to extend forgiveness is to be able to own your own need for forgiveness.

Philip Hardin: Question number two:

Who's an example of aggressive forgiveness to you.

Philip Hardin: The are with the minor

Philip Hardin: who was like man, that Guy's got character

Philip Hardin: integrity,

Philip Hardin: who's model forgiveness for you

Philip Hardin: If you grew up in a home, where there was a lot of bitterness and resentment and anger.

Philip Hardin: Good luck

Philip Hardin: line up in my office.

Philip Hardin: Oh,

Philip Hardin: we need models of forgiveness

Philip Hardin: then,

Philip Hardin: friends,

Philip Hardin: and Certainly my wife is a model of forgiveness for me because of how she's forgiven me for how I've hurt her.

Philip Hardin: My girls, I have two adult daughters now,

Philip Hardin: and we've had many conversations of how I've hurt them.

Philip Hardin: I recently listened to an Eric Metaxis

Philip Hardin: interview, and, as I've said to you a number of times you need to be listening to Eric Metaxis. His podcast is outstanding. He calls his show a show about everything.

Philip Hardin: Ah, and so godly man, I I, In my personal opinion, I believe Eric Metaxis is the closest thing to Cs. Lewis in our generation that we have.

Philip Hardin: He's written a number of books. All are worthy of your read. But I recently heard him interview Catherine Schwarzenegger craft,

Philip Hardin: and as you would think, there's not many Schwarzenegger's running around you know wonder who I wonder who she's ken to the

Philip Hardin: She's the daughter of Arnold and Maria Shriver, and she wrote a book on the gift of forgiveness

Philip Hardin: unbelievable. I didn't who knew, who knew that Arnold and Maria's daughter would write a book on forgiveness, and she had interviewed, and has collected stories of those who have forgiven big.

Philip Hardin: The first story in the book is of Elizabeth Smart.

Philip Hardin: She was, you know, the fourteen year old that was abducted, and in the in the book. She tells in detail

Philip Hardin: appropriate detail how she was raped every day for nine months

Philip Hardin: now I have two daughters, gentlemen, as many of you do.

Philip Hardin: He's

Philip Hardin: horrific.

Philip Hardin: And when Elizabeth Smart came home, her mom and dad said to her, Elizabeth, what's happened to you is so wrong,

Philip Hardin: but you cannot continue to carry that around, otherwise he will continue to have power over you

Philip Hardin: and she details in the book.

Philip Hardin: How she began to practice

Philip Hardin: forgiveness

Philip Hardin: and forgiveness is not an episode. It's not like, you know.

Philip Hardin: I did that, and it didn't work.

Philip Hardin: No, forgiveness is an ongoing process to experience it or to give it.

Philip Hardin: It's practice. It's like I get up every day, and I need to forgive, because that that gone Unforgiveness monster will come back in, and Elizabeth Smart and the others that are detailed in that book give great examples of forgiving the unforgivable.

Philip Hardin: The other resource that I would

Philip Hardin: direct you toward is Lisa Turkishit's book for giving what you can't forget.

Philip Hardin: Um great book. Read that this summer for the first time, and

Philip Hardin: she does a great job of teasing that out. Forgiveness

Philip Hardin: mysterious, mysterious. How you have the power, through the forgiveness that you've experienced through Jesus, to grant to another that which they don't deserve when you do that, it frees you

Philip Hardin: so. Third question, To whom do you need to forgive?

Philip Hardin: Who comes to your mind, Dear God,

Philip Hardin: speak to my heart right now. Who do I need to forgive

Philip Hardin: who has hurt me, that I continue to carry that bitterness

Philip Hardin: and keep walking with that rock in my shoe;

Philip Hardin: that if I would just take that rock out of my shoe. I wouldn't walk with a limb.

Philip Hardin: Who do I need to forget.

Philip Hardin: So I want you to turn to a partner

Philip Hardin: Sometimes the best work we do around here is when I shut up and let you do the working back there.

Philip Hardin: Oh,

Philip Hardin: and I want you just to meet a friend um, and share any part of what you wrote down, or just say to your friend. If you don't want to share anything to say, you know It's too painful for me to share. I just need to keep it to myself right now.

Philip Hardin: But, uh, God's given us a confessional faith, a talking faith in as men. We're way too passive. I want you to turn to your partner, share any part of what you just wrote down with your part.

Philip Hardin: Go

to the

on the

Philip Hardin: so it's, it's, it's, it's it's it's it's, it's, it's, it's it's, it's, it's it's it's, it's, it's, it's it's it's, it's it's, it's, it's, it's, it's it's, it's it's, it's it's, it's, it's, it's, it's, it's, a it's, a it's, a it's, a it's a it's a it's a it's a it's a it's a it's a it's, a it's it's It'

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Philip Hardin: and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven and the future starts. Now God is keeping careful watch over us in the future. The day is coming when you'll have it all life healed in whole and all of that hurt from how you've been hurt or go away.

Philip Hardin: We're always dealing with two things guys as we've talked about all summer. We're either dealing with

Philip Hardin: guilt. That which we've done.

Philip Hardin: We're dealing with hurt that which has been done against us. And this morning this idea of forgiveness is dealing with that second one

Philip Hardin: that hurt

Philip Hardin: You've been unfairly, unjustly

Philip Hardin: treated.

Philip Hardin: I know how great this makes you feel, even though you have to put up with every kind of aggravation. In the meantime you

Philip Hardin: pure goal, put in, the fire comes out of it, proved pure. Genuine faith put through this suffering comes out, proved genuine. When Jesus wraps this all up, it's your faith, not your goal that God will have on display as evidence of His victory.

Philip Hardin: Guys, i'll ask you this. Do you want to be right,

Philip Hardin: or do you want to be healed?

Philip Hardin: Do you want justice,

Philip Hardin: or do you want to be healed?

Philip Hardin: And if you want to be healed,

Philip Hardin: and you live this passage out. You extend forgiveness

Philip Hardin: for your sake. You never saw him yet you love him, you still don't see him yet you trust him with laughter and singing because you kept on believing you'll get what you're looking for to total salvation. It'll all be healed

Philip Hardin: Isn't it kind of annoying that somebody that's hurt you deeply will wind up spending eternity with you.

Philip Hardin: I mean, that's kind of annoying,

Philip Hardin: but it's true.

Philip Hardin: An eternity starts Now, Jesus said, The Kingdom of God is now.

It is now

Philip Hardin: it is now it is now. So here's the reality, guys.

Philip Hardin: I just quickly going through this, and you could fill in the blank there. And look at this a little bit later. I'll just run through this quickly.

Philip Hardin: The reality is that forgiveness is a protection

Philip Hardin: from emotional cancer

Philip Hardin: in the cancer,

Philip Hardin: that bitterness in all the other nasty words

Philip Hardin: we take into our life. I truly believe that

Philip Hardin: that cancer is facilitated by emotional bitterness and emotional constipation.

Philip Hardin: The more your body carries, it breaks down your immune system.

Philip Hardin: I'm not smart enough to figure all that out. I believe that intuitively your body's immune system will right now. So who knows?

Philip Hardin: So it's a protection. But what you've got to do in reality is, you've got to acknowledge the herd. We live in denial.

Philip Hardin: No, i'm not hurt. Then you're hurt. It's okay. It's okay. I am hurt

Philip Hardin: and best thing to do is write it out in your journal.

Philip Hardin: I was unfairly uh talk to my employer. Uh was totally wrong. I got fired unjustly. Whatever it is, acknowledged it. Hello! My name is Phil. And what are they saying? The A meeting,



Philip Hardin: you know. I'm an alcoholic and all the drunk to the a means. Say, Well, poof! You got acknowledged it. That's the first step of healing,

Philip Hardin: and then

Philip Hardin: we can be restored.

Philip Hardin: We can be restored to freedom, or you can live as a slave.

Philip Hardin: You know you can buy a new shirt at Walmart.

Philip Hardin: You're still a slave. You're still dressed in those rags,

Philip Hardin: Jesus said. You know I came to give you new life and new clothes dressed in righteousness.

I'm going to

Philip Hardin: but you, but you're dressing like a black

Philip Hardin: a street person.

Philip Hardin: This idea of trust

Philip Hardin: is a question, Mark.

Philip Hardin: Now, here is a

Philip Hardin: um

Philip Hardin: an important part about forgiveness.

Philip Hardin: When you've been hurt. Does that mean if you forgive that that you trust again when you get back in the relationship with them.

He's

Philip Hardin: ones E's and Tuesday's. Okay, this is second grade wisdom. Here. Forgiveness is a onez

Philip Hardin: reconciliation is a twosy.

Philip Hardin: What I mean by that is, you can forgive and need to forgive. Whether the other person does anything. Forgiveness is actually for you.

Philip Hardin: It frees you from being entangled to them and dragging them around. I mean, some of you guys live like What's that movie that Saturday night with Bernie or something when he kept writing the dead guy around

Philip Hardin: a good.

Philip Hardin: The guy's there,

Philip Hardin: and when you don't forgive it's like dragging a dead guy around.

Philip Hardin: Reconciliation is a toosey in that, in order to be restored in the relationship, the other person has to own their part

Philip Hardin: sometimes that doesn't happen, and so the Bible does not demand that we reconcile.

Philip Hardin: The Bible, says that we've been given the Ministry of reconciliation,

Philip Hardin: but it does not require us to reconcile with those who are unrepentant,

Philip Hardin: and who will not own their part,

Philip Hardin: and so that so that um

Philip Hardin: this idea of forgiveness allows us to to work with welcome

Philip Hardin: and the opposite of welcome in my mind

Philip Hardin: his judgment

Philip Hardin: I want to live with welcome.

Philip Hardin: I'm free,

Philip Hardin: you know, through the years I have hurt so many people,

Philip Hardin: you know I make people mad.

Philip Hardin: I actually get paid to make them mad sometimes. I don't try to do that, but you know i'm trying to help them, and I hold up a mirror to help them see reality. And some people don't like that,

Philip Hardin: and I've had guys bigger than me. Stand up over me and threaten to beat me in my office and praise God, I'm still alive. I haven't been shot in the parking lot,

Philip Hardin: but it's the idea that I'm not judging you, and I'm not going to allow you to judge me.

Philip Hardin: I can say things that may be hurtful to you, because that's the way you receive it, and I can say it wrong. I mean I've I've really made some huge mistakes,

Philip Hardin: but I've tried to reconcile, and many of you, some of you in this room have sent with me, as I've tried to clean up my mess,

Philip Hardin: you know.

Philip Hardin: Broom on. All three.

Philip Hardin: Got a mail over here,

Philip Hardin: but when we are free to forgive, we live with a welcome.

Philip Hardin: It's tattooed over our forehead. Welcome,

Philip Hardin: Glad to see you.

Philip Hardin: Glad to see you. I don't. I don't have to see you walking down the street. I go the other way. That's miserable.

Philip Hardin: So the keys

Philip Hardin: to forgiveness. That's the reality. So you want to live over here on this negative side, or you want to live with the protection and the acknowledgment, and the Restoration and renewed trust and welcome. That's what God's! Chemistry

Philip Hardin: three to be a man!

Philip Hardin: But here's the keys, and this is this is what I would invite you to work with.

Philip Hardin: First of all, as we've already said,

Philip Hardin: acknowledged,

Philip Hardin: Keep one.

Philip Hardin: Sit down and make an inventory.

This is how I've been hurt,

Philip Hardin: and then what you got to work with

Philip Hardin: is how you've been affected by it, and a lot of times what people want to do is they just shut down, and when they come into my office a lot of times. They're just shut down because they're trying to survive. Now, there's a difference between surviving and thriving.

Philip Hardin: I mean you can drink water and suck air.

Philip Hardin: It's Shabbat.

Philip Hardin: But you quit living a long time ago, when that trauma happened to you

Philip Hardin: in order to get back on the live train.

Philip Hardin: Forgiveness

Philip Hardin: is possible,

Philip Hardin: but what it's going to take is a lot of courageous honesty.

Philip Hardin: And as we talked about many times here, it's the idea of telling God what happened to you in in in my most profound experience of telling God what happened is sitting in the circle of men who love God

Philip Hardin: and experiencing the incarnational presence of God through the eyes of another man, and telling your story that's telling God. It's like you. Get in your prayer closet, and you just tell God

Philip Hardin: that I mean that's good.

Philip Hardin: I'm telling you, gentlemen, if those of you who have experienced know that i'm that this is true is that when you sit across from another man, or even a circle of

Philip Hardin: it's his church, it's his people,

Philip Hardin: and then

Philip Hardin: to have the ability

Philip Hardin: to be an agent of healing for another person, and to extend grace.

Philip Hardin: As we've said already. Guys, if you ain't experienced it, then you can't give it. Give us now. I don't think that's always true. I've seen in my own life, and others that I've been able to do some things that I've never experienced before, so we can learn some things,

Philip Hardin: but when it comes to forgiveness I don't think you can extend forgiveness if you Haven't experienced it on a deep deep level, you just can't do it,

Philip Hardin: that that pride that demand for justice will eat you alive.

Philip Hardin: And then once again

Philip Hardin: it opened you up,

Philip Hardin: not to the requirement,

Philip Hardin: but to the possibility of restoring the relationship. But you'll never restore it

Philip Hardin: If there's not forgiven you'll put a governor on that relationship. It'll only go so fast or so high,

Philip Hardin: and then, finally,

Philip Hardin: true, repair

Philip Hardin: through repair to your own broken heart,

Philip Hardin: in true repair to the possible reconciliation of the relationship,

Philip Hardin: the the mystery,

Philip Hardin: a forgiveness.

Philip Hardin: How do it know? How do it know?

It's a mystery.

Philip Hardin: Forgiveness is a gift

Philip Hardin: to yourself.

Philip Hardin: Receive it

Philip Hardin: so that you can get it.

Philip Hardin: It's closing prayer,

Philip Hardin: but and thank you for the beauty of the mystery of your gospel.

Philip Hardin: Free us, Lord, to be the men that you've designed us to be free us from the shackles that we so easily too easily carry.

Philip Hardin: Thank you for our time this morning. In Jesus name. Amen.

Philip Hardin: Have a great week, guys, and bring some guests next week, as we start a new series.