



Chapter 11 – Forgiveness, when Fathers make Hard Choices

The reason that forgiveness seems difficult to me earlier in my life is that I always wrongly associate forgiveness with needing to have, or needing to continue a relationship after forgiving. The truth about my forgiveness is that I don't always have to have an active relationship after forgiving!

My dislike of my father becomes deeper and deeper as I mature, and I realize that I am not ready for a life that other sons seem better prepared for. Instead of watching a single of my sporting events, asking about what I am thinking, or caring about what I am unsure-of as I grow, the man occupies his time by chasing skirts in bars, finding ways to trick others out of money or other important things they have, and even selling some of my few belongings while I am away. It isn't until after the man's passing that I understand that I can forgive him because I never have to worry about these damages or experiencing other types of damages from our relationship again.

I just have to remember that ‘getting along with’ and ‘liking’ people don’t *have* to be related concepts in my life. It just seems to be in my best interests for me to have access to every possible cognitive resource I enjoy, by reclaiming the thinking-bandwidth I waste in my holding grudges.

I need as much clear thinking as possible because I have enough on my plate with my worrying about getting along with the problematic people that I *still need* to deal with, so I am glad to completely cut-bait with any optional stragglers I have left in my head.

Who cares if I forgive someone who I never have to ever see again? I have better uses for the displaced brain-energy that I am using for holding grudges, especially when I never have to interact with ‘*who I forgive*’ again; this doesn’t solve my entire forgiveness problem, but in removing the people I will likely never deal with again, it solves a large chunk and sets some groundwork if I choose to work on the remaining forgiveness issues that I let bother me.

When Father’s Make Hard Choices

*If you found yourself in the presence of something screaming,
endlessly needy, and
demonstrating no bowel control desire whatsoever,
would you be more apt to embrace it...or kick it to the curb?*

*If you are a mother, then
the original version of mind control gives you few options other than to,
love this thing, protect it, teach it about feelings and getting along, and
to help it learn what the world will provide to help it survive.*

*A mother’s love is unconditional because a mother knows, that
the world will change very little when placing conditions on it.*

*If you are a father then,
you will show this thing, those things, and those boundaries, that
are required for a child to create its own options to survive.*

*A father's love must be conditional because,
personal options come from learning, learning is hard, and
that reaching the ends requires rewards and discipline,
carrots and sticks, and the love and approval, that
make completing each learning process,
more than worthwhile.*

*Children initially observe the dogma of the world's choices through,
a lens that a mother provides, and
the karma of their father-taught choices,
as they learn in productive and approving ways.*

*In the end, the species survives and flourishes, when
everything happens as it should; but
things being in their current condition show that,
other things are not happening as they should,
to survive and flourish.*

*The growth gets sticky is when, the
parents don't each provide their parts.
What is missing is as important to note, as what exists.*

*Children without motherly interaction,
tend to communicate poorly emotionally, and
have less faith in those things beyond their own abilities.*

*Children without enough fatherly interaction,
tend to see fewer boundaries, tend to miss the need to succeed, or
don't anticipate consequences well.*

*A father who is known and who isn't participating, is
a father doomed to making hard choices, and
at the expense of the children.*

*An inattentive father who feels forced to discipline, for
those disapproved-of things his children do,
should examine his role in the problem, and
the share of consequences to burden himself with as well-*

*Lest the children wrongly spend any amount of time,
being frustrated or anxious in learning the wrong message from,
the truly unearned consequences the father provides.*

*When the father lacks the ability to respect the needs of his children, or
the children lack the respect for the father, then
there is little hope that any useful karma will be taught or learned.*

*Respect is the disconnect, of
any certainty of a father-child relationship –
The certainty that the father is truly there,
or truly not there, and
makes the decision obvious to either embrace the father, or
to choose a surrogate that is hopefully available,
but to know that it is time to do what is possible to fill the void.*

*As with any relationship,
disrespect should be seen as a clear signal, that
no healthy relationship can exist, and
that it is time for a certain parting of ways, or*

*That it is time for the courage to at least stop any disrespect, and
maybe to find the courage for planting a mustard seed, for
some future respect...*

Of at least the relationship.