

Don't Point That Finger

You will cry, and [God] will say, "Here I am."

If you remove the yoke from your midst
The pointing of the finger and speaking wickedness
And if you give yourself to the hungry
And satisfy the desire of the afflicted,

Then your light will rise in darkness
And your gloom will become like midday.

And the Lord will continually guide you,
And satisfy your desire in scorched places,
And give strength to your bones;
And you will be like a watered garden,
And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail.

Isaiah 58 9-11

Corrie Ten Boom was held prisoner in a concentration camp in Germany during WWII for hiding Jews in her house in the Netherlands. After her miraculous release, she often spoke at churches about forgiveness. She was speaking at a church one day when a guard from the concentration camp entered the meeting. Corrie was immediately riled up with memories of fleas and lice, of shared buckets for the latrine, and sleeping several to a bed while eating nothing more than a potato a day. She had a hard time finishing her speech.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Corrie stood at the door shaking hands and thanking those who had come. She watched closely for the guard to approach her. She had hatred in her heart and thought that she had a right to point a finger at this guard's actions, but she cringed when she remembered her own words about forgiveness. She could not forgive this guard. Period. When the Guard reached out to shake Corrie's hand, God's love for the guard overwhelmed Corrie. She reached out through the power of God's love and forgiveness. They shed tears of forgiveness together. Grace won!

I want to be a grace giver. I want to be like a well watered garden with strength in my bones like it says in Isaiah 58 (above). I want God to continually guide me. He knows I make a mess of it on my own. I want God to take my gloom away and to let my light shine in darkness.

What about you? God's blessings and promises are many. All that He asks from us is to let go of our yoke (the law) and walk by grace. Grace means not pointing the finger at others, not speaking wickedness, and helping those with physical or emotional needs. With God's help I can do this.

I caught myself pointing a finger at someone who had done me much harm. He accepted the Lord the last year of his life. He was a new creature, so why was I still pointing my finger at him for what he had done in the flesh? I had to forgive and extend grace. Now I am free from the yoke that I had placed around my own neck (the law which condemned his behaviors), and I can cry out to God for His guidance and blessings.

Forgiveness is hard. It means letting go of the harms and hurt that someone else's actions caused you. It means that they no longer "Owe" you an apology or anything else. Forgiveness means not pointing the finger or speaking ill of the other. Forgiveness means moving on to healthy relationships.

Jesus forgave each of us every thought or action that was against His law. He freed us from that law to walk in grace. Grace requires forgiveness. Grace requires love. Grace is extended to you through belief in Jesus Christ.

Will you be the the one to give grace to someone who is still bound by the law?

Read Dara's blogs

Upcoming Events

Celebrate! - San Diego, California, February 25-27, 2022. This is the fourth national gathering geared for boomers, builders and empty nesters.

Watch for upcoming Homeschool conventions. I am applying for them now.

I you would like to have Dara speak at your women's group, call 325-450-9711.



Service Spotlight

I am very humbled to announce that Practical Proverbs for the Older Student and Practical Proverbs for the Younger Students are now both available in Russian and being distributed to pastors, youth directors, mission workers, and teachers in 14 Russian speaking nations.

Copies will be available on Amazon by the end of November. Thank you for your donations that made this possible.

Mission Eurasia is interested in printing our women's Practical Proverbs Bible Studies as these nations are in dire need of such tools. We will need to collect \$10,500 for these books to be translated, printed, and distributed.

If you would like to help spread God's Word to countries like Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Israel, Armenia, Russia, Azerbaijan, and others, please donate.



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