

Outline – January 22, 2023

Ephesians 2:4-9, 4:26-32

Letting It Go

How Much Of Last Year
Do You Want To Carry Into This Year?

- I. **How our pain and problems get worse**
 - A. Letting the sun go down on our anger
 - B. Letting the unforgiveness buildup
 - C. Letting the pain of yesteryear block the communication, cooperation, consideration of those you care about

- II. **The importance of forgiveness**
 - A. You can't have a lasting or healthy relationship without forgiveness
 - B. You can't have a healthy or lasting life without forgiveness
 - C. You can't have a relationship with God without forgiveness
 1. Receiving it
 2. Giving it
 3. It's a gift from God to know and to share

- III. **How do you not drag last year's problems into this year**
 - A. You decide
 1. To forgive
 2. To let things go
 3. That your past may remind you, but won't define you
 4. You can't wait until life isn't hard anymore to decide to be happy
 - B. Some things need new boundaries, restructured, restored or removed

- IV. **What to "let go" of so this year will be better than last – 10 things**
 - A. Toxic people
 1. Some people may be good, but not good for you
 2. Some people are seasonal, and some people are a lifetime. Know who is who.
 3. Jesus said "cut out" that which causes you to stumble
 4. Bad company corrupts good morals
 - B. Forgiveness of others
 1. As we have been forgiven, we forgive
 2. Forgiveness shows others who you follow
 3. Forgiveness brings blessing and peace to you
 4. Never more like Jesus than when you forgive
 5. When we don't forgive, we become bitter, proud, hateful
 6. What forgiveness is not

- C. Forgiveness of self
 - D. Let go doing life your way, start doing life God's way
 - E. Let go trying to please everyone seek to please God
 - 1. Martha and Mary
 - F. Let go leading a double life
 - G. Let go of the hidden rift with God
 - H. Let go of the ignorance
 - 1. Invest in yourself
 - I. Let go of being lukewarm
 - 1. Restore your passion
 - 2. Learn to be unshakeable
 - J. Let go of the clutter
- V. **Walk in grace**
- A. God's Grace saves you
 - B. God's Grace keeps you
 - C. God's Grace comforts you
 - D. God's Grace changes you
 - E. God's Grace blesses you

**That's How You Make This
Year Better Than Last**