

## Dealing with the Unrepentant

Romans 12:19 (HCSB) Friends, do not avenge yourselves; instead, leave room for His wrath. For it is written: Vengeance belongs to Me; I will repay, says the Lord.

<b>Series:</b> Unpacking Forgiveness #5	South Orlando Baptist Church
<b>Topics:</b> Justice, Revenge	November 9, 2014
<b>Text:</b> Romans 12:9-21	Dr. David Crowe

When someone is unrepentant sinning against you...

1) Repay no one evil for evil (16-18)

A) This wisdom ties into Jesus' Sermon on the Mount where Christ teaches: "But I tell you, don't resist an evildoer. On the contrary, if anyone slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also." Matthew 5:39 (HCSB)

B) Repaying evil for evil will always lead to an escalation of the problem and never a true solution.

2) Resolve not to take revenge (19a)

A) You must do what you can to bring peace, as far as it depends upon you.

B) Live peaceably with all.

3) Rest in God's Justice (19b)

A) Leave it to the wrath of God.

B) Let God repay.

4) Respond in Love (20-21)

A) Offer the offender kindness.

B) Overcome evil with good.

## Application Questions

Answers to some of the following questions will be found in Romans 12.

1. What might a friend do to you that you would have trouble forgiving?
2. With whom does God want us to live at peace? (12:18)
3. What does God require of us to bring about peace in a bad situation?
4. Why should we not take revenge? (12:19)
5. How will the wrath of God be dealt out to unrepentant offenders?
6. What is the purpose of showing kindness to an enemy? (12:20)
7. Why is it wrong to repay evil with evil?
8. How does doing good to an enemy overcome evil?
9. Whom do you need to love and bless this week even though he or she hurts you?

Here are some helpful resources that will help you to forgive others:

MacArthur, John. *The Freedom and Power of Forgiveness*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 1998.

Spurgeon, Charles. *Forgiveness Made Easy. Classic Sermon on Ephesians 4:32*. Available online for free at <http://www.spurgeon.org/sermons/1448.htm>