

PERSONAL STORIES OF FORGIVENESS

***My story is so complicated. The highlights are:

After eighteen years, and four children, my first husband left us and married a woman with five children. I blamed God and began to run around myself, finally falling into the hands of a charming, deceitful man that went to prison for shooting a man (right in front of me). I ended up running for my own life.

I fled to my son's home in Florida where I later married. But soon my first husband died and my oldest daughter came to Florida with an awful story of her own. Her father (my first husband) had molested her from age four to thirteen. Of course I wanted to kill him, but he was already dead.

BUT. . . God taught me about forgiveness. You see, I was willing to forgive and gave my whole heart to an inner healing experience. I forgave all those that had hurt me and done unspeakable things to me. Praise God! I'm so glad that he sent Jesus to bind up all the wounds and free me from the bonds Satan had tightened around me.

***My life had been one of trauma, pain, rejection, abandonment, fear, shame, guilt, unforgiveness and bitterness up until 1992. I also turned to alcohol and drugs to cover up all the pain, and it wasn't until "enough was enough" that my life began to take a turn.

One year after reaching sobriety in 1992, I was diagnosed with a deadly cancer. My life was turned upside down again. However, over the last few years I had to take a big look inside and confront all the anger, unforgiveness, bitterness and rage head on, as a major contributor to my health problems.

On the road to recovery I have once again accepted the Lord, and he has done a tremendous healing physically and emotionally. My marriage of twenty years has been restored. I consciously take a look every day to see if there is any unforgiveness in my heart because I know the price, not only I had to pay, but my husband had to pay as well.

—These stories of forgiveness, as well as many more can be viewed at www.Forgiving.org