Romans 12:17-18, 20-21 *(NLT) Never pay back evil with more evil... [18] Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. ...“If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.” [21] Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.*

***So what do we do if the person who has sinned against us does not ask us to forgive them? The fact that God offered us forgiveness *“while we were still sinners”* is certainly part of the answer. Our sins were PAID IN FULL at the cross before we ever asked God for forgiveness. We are called to act like our Lord, we can forgive because we have been forgiven. Does that mean it will always work out and that reconciliation will take place? No. There is no guarantee that we will ever have a restored relationship. However, we are freed of our bitterness by forgiving. *“We are not bound to trust an enemy; but we are bound to forgive him. We are not responsible to make reconciliation happen. We are responsible to seek it.”* (Future Grace - Piper pg. 266)

PRAYER: Lord, You have forgiven me of so much. Thank YOU! Help me to forgive those who have hurt me and to seek to honor You in the way I treat them.

Pastor Mark Kieft
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