Romans 12:17-21 *(NLT) Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. [18] Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. [19] Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord. [20] Instead, "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.*

****If we are honest when we are wronged by someone our natural desire is to get even. We want to hurt them for the pain that they have caused us. But the Bible is very clear on the issue of Revenge, Bitterness, and Forgiveness.

Life Application Bible Notes: "...If we love someone the way Christ loves us, we will be willing to forgive. If we have experienced God's grace, we will want to pass it on to others. And remember, grace is *undeserved* favor. By giving an enemy a drink, we're not excusing his misdeeds. We're recognizing him, forgiving him, and loving him in spite of his sins - just as Christ did for us."

PRAYER: Lord, thank You that YOU have Forgiven me. Help me to learn to be a good Forgiver. Help me to show You grace to others rather than to give into to bitterness and a desire for revenge.

Pastor Mark Kieft
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