

# DID JESUS HOLD A GRUDGE?

# THE GRUDGE

FREEDOM IN FORGIVENESS

## THE WORLD IS WATCHING (YOU)

**LUKE 24:46-48 NLT** And he said, “Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. <sup>(47)</sup> It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: ‘There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.’ <sup>(48)</sup> You are witnesses of all these things.”

**EPHESIANS 4:30-32 NLT** And do not bring sorrow to God’s Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. <sup>(31)</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. <sup>(32)</sup> Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

## JESUS IS FORGIVING (YOU)

**LUKE 23:34 ESV** Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.” And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice.

**ROMANS 5:6-11 NLT** When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. <sup>(7)</sup> Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. <sup>(8)</sup> But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. <sup>(9)</sup> And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. <sup>(10)</sup> For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. <sup>(11)</sup> So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

**2 CORINTHIANS 1:4-7 NLT** He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. <sup>(5)</sup> For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. <sup>(6)</sup> Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer. <sup>(7)</sup> We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us.

## WHO IS CONTROLLING? (YOU)

**PSALMS 19:12-13 NLT** How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. <sup>(13)</sup> Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don’t let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.

**2 CORINTHIANS 11:20 NLT** You put up with it when someone enslaves you, takes everything you have, takes advantage of you, takes control of everything, and slaps you in the face.

**1 JOHN 2:27 NLT** But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don’t need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.

## THINK & DISCUSS:

1. What does the world see from your life?
2. How do you practically apply God’s forgiveness?
3. In what way have you seen unforgiveness control your life?

## MY STEP: #1 Thank God for Forgiving Me