

Today's Devotional is provided by Dale Madyun-Baskerville

Forgiveness

During this Lenten season my thoughts turn to a book of daily meditations written by Iyanla Vanzant, including the one on July 4 which encourages us to forgive, to free us from the pain of our mistakes and open the door to the future.

It begins, "Forgive and you will be forgiven." Luke 6:27

She goes on to provide the following thoughts. "Everybody has had someone who has "done them wrong." When someone hurts us, we want to hurt them back. We live with anger and thoughts of revenge. We want them to feel what we have felt. We want them to know they can't get away with what they did. But they did get away if your anger keeps you stuck in the situation.



"When the tables turn, we make mistakes, we create pain for others, and we cannot understand why they do not or cannot forgive us. Perhaps it is because there is someone we need to forgive. Forgiveness frees us from the pain of the past and moves us beyond our mistakes in the future. What you give you get.

When you forgive, forgiveness is there for you if you need it.

"I forgive everyone for everything, totally and unconditionally."

During this Lenten season these words remind me that God sacrificed God's only son for our salvation. No matter how many times we fall, God never stops loving us. God's love is truly unconditional.

Now the question is: who do I, who do you, need to forgive today?