

Power to Forgive

Forgiveness, although difficult, unleashes an awesome power when it is activated. A recent Perspective related how Carrie ten Boom, an underground activist held prisoner of war in Nazi Germany, was finally able to forgive a wrong that had been done against her. Its posting on the Village Square brought this response from one of our associates in the Southwest Division:

"Your article this morning (September 8) is on a subject I feel so strongly about that I thought you might like to hear a little bit of my story. When I was only 5 years old, my mother was murdered and the murderer was never caught. By the time I was 14, I had become so filled with anger, bitterness and hatred toward this unknown person. I carried that burden around and let it fester for over 30 years (I call this my blackheart period).

"The most amazing thing about this is when I finally came to the Lord, that hatred and anger was the very first burden He lifted from me. I was finally able to forgive this unknown person in my heart. We serve a truly amazing God Who knows what we need the most."

How is it possible to forgive someone who has murdered your mother? Only through the amazing, transforming power of the love of God.

--Beecher Hunter