# **PARDON**

FOR CHARACTER ● FOR RELATIONSHIPS ● FOR LIFE

# **PARDON**

FORGIVENESS AND RELEASE



Pardon is forgiveness of an offense or cancellation of a penalty. It involves excusing someone for what they did or failed to do. Pardon provides the offender with release from penalty; it provides the one granting pardon with release from bitterness.

Using th	e definitior	above, do I	practice pardon	with others	? How?
Using th	e definitior	n above, do I	practice pardon	with myself	? How?
How wo	uld I rate m	yself on sho	wing pardon to o	others?	
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Date	

Symptoms and consequences . . .

# HOW TO TELL WHEN PARDON IS LACKING

When pardon is weak, people hold grudges that sometimes grow far out of proportion to the offense. The drive for revenge may become intense. The person who offended is not granted the freedom to move on; the person withholding pardon is in bondage to resentment and bitterness. It adversely affects them and all the people around them.

We may never have experienced or witnessed pardon in our own lives. We may think that failing to forgive is a way to punish the offender, not realizing we are hurting ourselves more than the other person.

Good to forget – Best to forgive!

- Robert Browning

L	Who do I find it hard to show pardon to? ist 1-3 names, codes, or initials
Wh	ny?
	Who do I find it easy to show pardon to? List 1-3 names, codes, or initials
Wh	ny?
_	Date

# Seed 12

# LIFESKILLS 12 Seeds Respect Encouragement LISTENING APPRECIATION TRUST

ORDER
NURTURE
SYNERGY
HOPE
IDEALS
PARDON

**FOR GROWTH** 

Pardon helps fill the human need for:

**Forgiveness** 

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

- Colossians 3:13

Write below what the verse above means to you.

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	_

There's a good harvest . . .

## WHEN PARDON GROWS

Pardon does so much for interpersonal relationships! It releases people to go forward. It acknowledges that we all do things that harm other people, sometimes greatly. And yet we can forgive and move on. Pardon frees us from bitterness and resentment.



# SOME OF THE BLESSINGS WHEN PARDON GROWS:

- People receive the blessing of forgiveness.
- Reconciliation, if needed, is possible.
- Stress decreases as peace is restored.
- Relationships continue to develop.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

- Psalm 51:1

Which blessings are the most important to me?	•

r anniny men	<b>nbers?</b> $\square$ Yes $\square$ No If yes, how?
How could I im	uprove?
<b>₽</b>	
• Friends and	d acquaintances? □Yes □No If yes, how?
<b>P</b>	
How could I im	
<b>P</b>	
• Authority F	Figures? □Yes □No If yes, how?
How could I im	aprove?
Mhat will I co	ommit to do in order to better practice this seed?

# HABITS TO HELP PARDON GROW:

### **PRAYER**

Dear Lord, thank you for Your pardon. Help me graciously pardon those who have offended or hurt me.

# THOUGHTS & ATTITUDES

The Lord has forgiven me so much!
I appreciate that others have pardoned me.
With the Lord's help, I can forgive

# **WORDS**

"Please forgive me."
"I'm sorry for what I did."
"I forgive you. Let's go
forward together."

### **ACTIONS**

Let go of grudges. Write a letter asking for forgiveness. Write a letter granting forgiveness.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

Accept others as they are. Generously give and receive pardon.