

FREE TO RECONCILE

PART 1

1. **Be willing to initiate reconciliation** with another person.
(Matthew 5:23-24)
2. **Before seeking forgiveness** from another person, be sure that you have already forgiven him/her (as applicable).
3. **Be sure it is clear** in your mind what the offense is.
4. **Label your offense as wrong;** don't just say you are sorry.
5. Keep it **simple**.
6. **Don't defend** yourself or make excuses.
7. This is probably **not the best time to confront** the other person about a wrongdoing on his/her part.
8. The above should lead to the direct question, **"Will you forgive me?"**
9. If you have not already done so prior to this, **confess your wrong to the Lord.**
(1 John 1:9)

What if the other person won't forgive you?

See the other side of this card.

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PART 2

If the other person won't forgive you:

1. Remember: Reconciliation only takes place if **both** you and the other person obey God.
2. **Do not become offended** if he/she won't forgive you.
3. Remember, **the other person does not hold the "keys" to your forgiveness.**

If you have obeyed God by walking in forgiveness toward the other person (as applicable), asked his/her forgiveness, offered to make restitution (if necessary), and confessed your wrong to the Lord, you are **forgiven and free** by the One who does hold the "keys."

4. With the above in mind, cast your cares on the Lord and **commit the unforgiving person to Him.**

- Psalm 55:22
- 1 Peter 5:5-7
- Matthew 5:25-26

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