

Corrie Ten Boom



Who is Corrie Ten Boom?

- Born April 15, 1892 in Haarlem, Netherlands (near Amsterdam, Holland)
- Youngest Child of four siblings (Betsie, Nollie, Willem, and Corrie)
- Corrie's given name was actually Cornelia and she was named after her mother
- Her father was a master watchmaker and jeweler.
- Corrie and her family built a false wall into her bedroom to hide Jewish refugees from the German soldiers
- Corrie was not Jewish, but she was arrested and sent to several Jewish concentration camps after it was discovered that she helped the Jews to hide from the Germans



What did she do?

- Corrie and her family built a secret room behind a false wall in her bedroom where they could hide Jewish people
- The ten Boom family risked their lives to save the lives of others
- During the war, Corrie and her family saved approximately 800 Jewish lives.
- Corrie and her family were arrested and put in prison for what they did
- Corrie and Betsie were sent to the scariest and deadliest prison camp of all Ravensbruck
- Corrie forgave all of the guards that beat her and imprisoned her including one who came and asked her forgiveness face to face



What did she do?

- In December of 1944 Corrie was released from Ravensbruck Concentration Camp
- All of her family had passed away in different prisons and concentrations camps
- Even though she went through so much suffering, after her release she went around the world to preach about forgiveness
 - Forgiveness is the key that unlocks the door of resentment and the handcuffs of hatred. It is a power that breaks the chains of bitterness and the shackles of selfishness
 - When He tells us to love our enemies, He gives along with the command, the love itself



An Example from The Bible

- The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant
 - Matthew 18:21-35
- This story shows us as believers that forgiveness is a part of our walk with the Lord
- The first servant owed his master an enormous sum of money. Ten thousand was the largest Greek number and a talent was the largest coin. This would be the equivalent of millions of dollars today. This debt could never be repaid, yet his master forgave him. We should always forgive, even if the debt is huge.
- The master in the story is like God. If a person is genuinely sorry for wrongdoing and asks for God's forgiveness, it is freely given.
- The second servant's debt was very small, yet the first servant would not let him off. This is the wrong attitude. Jesus taught that God is willing to let us off a debt we cannot repay, so we should be ready to forgive others

