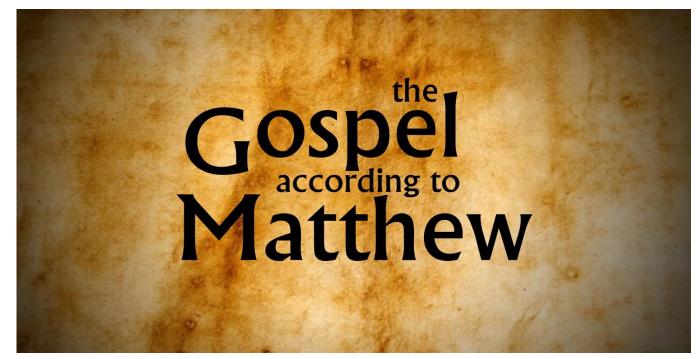
# Forgive Each Other Matthew 18:21-35







## HLCE Theme 2025 Year of Service

Come Follow Jesus
Love and Serve Him!

Matthew 20:28

Jesus came not to be
served but to serve



## How to Serve in Love and Unity?

Matthew 18
4th Teaching Discourse

#### Extra-ordinary Kingdom Relationships

- Humility (V1-9)
- Care for Each Other (10-14)
- Resolving Conflicts (15-20)
- Forgiveness (V21-35)



# Matthew 18:15-20 Resolving Conflict with Love

A Life of Humility, Honesty, and Love

Purpose, Procedure, Principles

By His Way and Power in His Presence



## Matthew 18:21-35 Forgive Each Other

Are you a forgiving person?

Forgiveness is difficult C.S. Lewis wrote,

"Everyone thinks forgiveness is a lovely idea until he has something to forgive."



#### The Tragedy of An Unforgiven Heart

Marianne Williamson

"Unforgiveness is like drinking poison and waiting for the other person to die."

#### Forgive from the heart and remember the sin no more

John Connolly "There is nobility in compassion, a beauty in empathy, a grace in forgiveness."





#### Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup> 'Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.



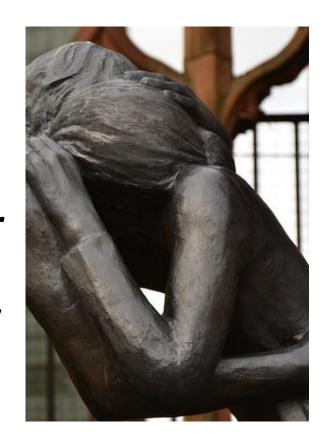
<sup>26</sup> 'At this the servant fell on his knees before him. "Be patient with me," he begged, "and I will pay back everything." <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> 'But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii He grabbed him and began to choke him. "Pay back what you owe me!" he demanded. <sup>29</sup> 'His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, "Be patient with me, and I will pay it back." <sup>30</sup> 'But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.



When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. Then the master called the servant in. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.

<sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. <sup>35</sup> 'This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.



### How Many/Few Times Must I Forgive?

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?'

How many times must I restore my brother who sins?

#### **Unlimited Times**

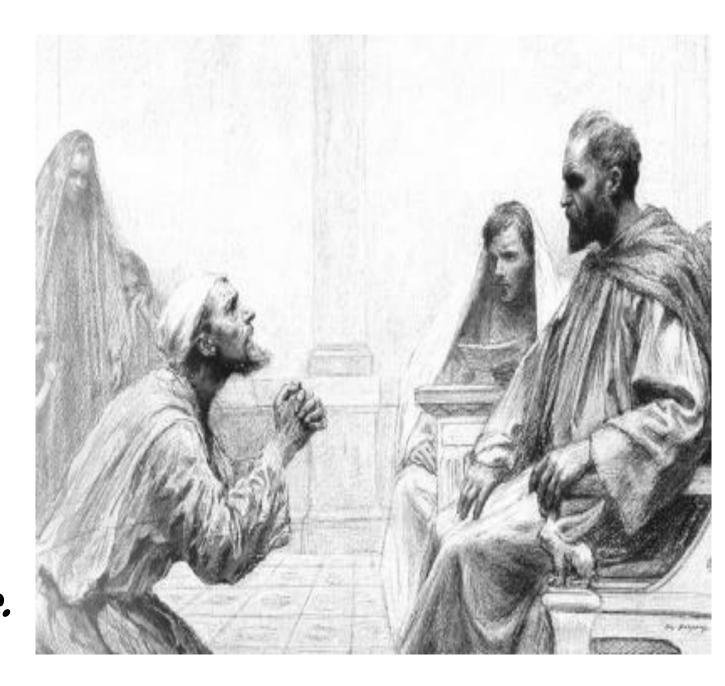
I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.



#### The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

A man owed the king an unpayable amount

10,000 talents
= 60 million denarii
=160,000 years wages
A talent is 6000 denarii,
a denarius is a day's wage.





### He came begging for mercy

"Be patient with me," he begged, "and I will pay back everything."

# The king took pity on him and cancelled ALL his debt freely

He did not ask for it.

It was pure grace!



## The man unmerciful dealing with his friend

His friend owed him

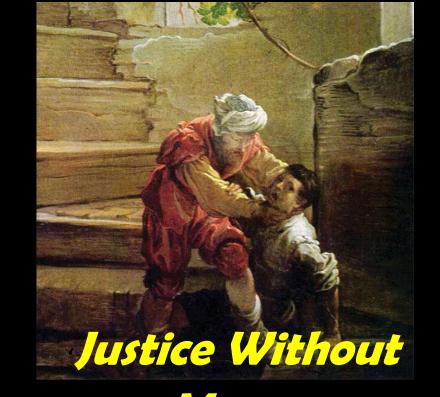
a payable amount

100 denarii = 100 days wages.

Compare his 60 million denarii debt to the king.

He refused to show mercy

The king threw him into prison to be tortured





#### The lesson on Forgiveness

'This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.

Forgive or you will not be forgiven

Evidence, Condition of a forgiven heart

If we have received forgiveness, have we really experienced forgiveness deep in the heart?



#### **The Power to Forgive**

The Love & Power of Christ on the Cross

#### Forgive as Christ has forgiven you Ephesians 4:32

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption...

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.





We are the man who owes the king an impossible sum to pay back

Ephesians 2:1-5
Our sins cannot be redeemed by our good works

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins... gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

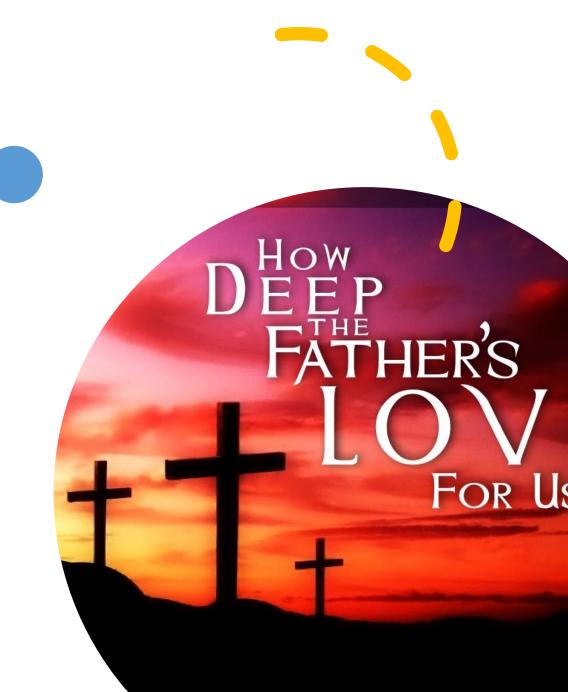


#### **By Grace God forgives us freely through His Son**

<sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions − it is by grace you have been saved.

## We will forgive others if we are grateful for our forgiveness

If God has forgiven us such a great debt, how can we not forgive others the much smaller debt?



The Holy Spirit
Empowers us
to Forgive

We are made alive in Christ by the Spirit

Compel and humble by this love, we surrender ourselves to Jesus and be filled by the Spirit to love and forgive others



# Forgive as you have been forgiven much

"To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."

C.S. Lewis



## **Serve Together** in Love & Unity

Meditate on the love of Christ for us on the cross

Restore and forgive each other at ALL times





