Forgive Each Other

Greg Kline · Matthew 18:21–35

INTRODUCTION

- Peter has a question for Jesus, and he says, Lord, how often will my brother sin against me and I forgive him?
- And the point was you are to always forgive. Jesus wasn't putting a cap at 77 or 490 times.
- So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.

1 The King Forgave Him the Unpayable Debt

Matthew 18:23–27

- The point is that unpayable debt.
- Now, with pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.
- And forgave him the debt. He wiped it clean.
- We can see the idea of God being the king who has forgiven us the unpayable debt.

2 The Servant Who Was Forgiven Would Not Be Forgiving

Matthew 18:28–34

- He seizes him and began to choke him, saying, Pay what you owe. This is the opposite of compassion.
- But in verse 30, the servant who was forgiven would not be forgiving.
- And then if I'm vulnerably honest, I realize that sometimes I am that servant.

3 Forgiveness Is Conditional

1 John 1:9; Matthew 6:14–15

- Forgiveness is conditional, and it is conditional upon two ideas.
- If we confess our sins, he, God, is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- If you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
- This is not a 10-year goal. This is a today goal.

4 The Main Loser Is Us

Colossians 3:12–13; Ephesians 4:31–32

- Consider another truth about forgiveness is that the only loser in this scenario in the lack of giving forgiveness, the main loser, as it pertains to our worldview, is us.
- Forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- Can I impress upon us all this morning that forgiveness of others is a must? This is not an option.
- If we don't forgive, not only will we not be forgiven, we will suffer in this life.

5 We Need Forgiveness From Others

Matthew 5:23–24; Matthew 18:32–33

- All of us have needed and will need, may currently need forgiveness from others.
- Leave your gift, therefore before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.
- If we have wronged someone, we are to go to them.
- Nobody is perfect, starting with, including, and perhaps especially me.

6 View Others the Way I Want God to View Me

2 Samuel 12:7–14; Jonah 3:10

- Do I view others of God's creation the way I want God to view me?
- David said to Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said to David, The Lord also has put away your sin. You shall not die.
- Are we rooting against people? Or are we rooting against their sin?
- That's not like God. I can't be like that. I have to be different.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **God is faithful. God has offered forgiveness. Will you take it today?**

MY NOTES