

Releasing Debts

Matthew 18:21-34

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Pastor Chris preaches from the CSB.

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Why?

- We all know that if we don't get the trash out of our house, it begins to impact everyone in the home.

How Do We Deal With That?

- The pain of past conflict often times tarnishes the present.

"We all agree that forgiveness is a beautiful idea until we have someone to forgive." - CS Lewis

Truth

- If you are one of His disciples, you must be all about forgiveness.

Defining Terms

- "Forgiveness": A decision to cancel a debt.

Biblical Premise

- That the Lord will reveal to you who it is that you need to forgive, that you would know what it is you are forgiving and then give you the strength to decide to choose to cancel the debt.

The Goal

- That you would be set free.

Understanding The Context

- This passage is all about relational conflict.

How Many Times?

- 70 times 7 is a euphuism for unlimited.

1 talent was similar to a 20 year's worth of wages.

In an act of love and grace Jesus absorbed the debt of our sin on the cross.

But What The Parable Is Shifting Toward Is

- Considering what Jesus did for us, it's simply one who's forgiven passing on forgiveness.

The Applicational Key

- You must have received His grace in order to give His grace.

Even If You Can't Understand It, Know This

- God always says what He means and means what He says.

Forgiveness Principles

1. Forgiven people forgive people.
2. Unforgiving people are self-destructive.

Hebrews 12:15

Proverbs 19:11

- An injury plus unforgiveness plus time = Bitterness

Forgiveness Is Not

- A feeling
- Denying
- Enabling
- Covering up
- Forgetting

"To actually forgive a sin, you have to remember the sin."

- Trusting
- Reconciliation

Do I Need To Call Them?

- Forgiveness is always between you and the Lord.

The 3 Step Process of Forgiveness

1. Identify who injured you.
2. Determine what it is that they actually owe you.
 - General forgiveness does not heal specific hurts.
3. Cancel the debt.

Father,

_____ has taken from me _____ and I have held on to this burden for far too long. I don't want to carry this burden any longer. With your help, I am choosing to cancel this debt.

_____ owes me no longer. They owe me nothing, I release them from the debt they owe me. Just as you forgave me, I choose to forgive _____.

In Jesus Name