

CHRIST EMPOWERED

Freedom

Matthew 18:21-35

Part 5

**In Order to Live Free,
You Must Let Go
of Your Unforgiveness**

Matthew 18:21

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?”

Matthew 18:22

“No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”

Matthew 18:23

**Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven
can be compared to a king who
decided to bring his accounts up to
date with servants who had
borrowed money from him.**

Matthew 18:24

In the process, one of his debtors
was brought in who owed him
millions of dollars.

Matthew 18:25

He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

Matthew 18:26

But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.'

Matthew 18:27

Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

Matthew 18:28

But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

Matthew 18:29

His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded.

Matthew 18:30

But his creditor wouldn't wait.

**He had the man arrested and
put in prison until the debt could
be paid in full.**

Matthew 18:31

When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened.

Matthew 18:32

Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me.'

Matthew 18:33

Shouldn't you have mercy
on your fellow servant,
just as I had mercy on you?'

Matthew 18:34

Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

Matthew 18:35

**That's what my heavenly Father
will do to you if you refuse to
forgive your brothers and sisters
from your heart."**

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Forgiveness *Is Not*

- **A narrowly defined list of actions.**
- **About positioning yourself to be abused, hurt, or taken advantage of repeatedly.**
- **Something that is self-serving.**

Forgiveness *Is Not*

- **Something you can do with a cold soul.**
- **Something that guarantees restoration or reconciliation.**
- **Something that expresses itself cruelly.**
- **Something that is genuine simply because one says the words.**

Forgiveness *Is Not*

- **Always something that you will initially feel joyous about.**
- **A free pass from consequences or prosecution.**
- **Pretending that the incident never happened.**

Forgiveness *Is Not*

- **Hiding or condoning an offense, sin, or injustice to save face.**
- **Something that needs the offender to ask for it.**
- **Something the offender deserves.**
- **A feeling.**

Principle #1

**God's forgiveness is perfect in that
it is both gracious and merciful.**

GRACE is getting what we don't
deserve. **MERCY** is not getting what
we deserve.

Principle #2

There is a difference between being forgiven by God and genuinely experiencing God's forgiveness.

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Principle #3

In the Kingdom of God, unforgiveness is a spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical disorder that is derived from one's unwillingness or inability to forgive others.

Disorder *Defined*

An illness that disrupts normal functions. A disorder is a set of problems, which result in causing significant difficulty, distress, impairment, and/or suffering in a person's daily life.

**Unforgiveness hinders
our body's ability to heal.**

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Principle #4

Unforgiveness chains us to the past.

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Principle #4

Unforgiveness chains us to the past.

Principle #5

Unforgiveness poisons the present.

Unforgiveness is like drinking poison daily, while expecting the other person to die from it.

Principle #6

Unforgiveness destroys the future.

Principle #7

**Unforgiveness comes
between you and God.**

**When we hold onto unforgiveness,
we are attempting to take God off
His throne so that we can sit in the
judgment seat.**

Choosing to forgive others is not about giving people what they deserve, it is about giving our pain, suffering, and brokenness to God, because we trust Him to be able to save, heal, and redeem it ALL!

Principle #7

**Unforgiveness comes
between you and God.**

Principle #8

Some of us need to be spiritually delivered from unforgiveness.

While others of us need to understand forgiveness as a process.

Seeking Deliverance

- **Identification**
- **Confession**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Give It to God for Destruction**
- **Repentance**

Seeking Deliverance

- **Receive Gods Truth. Believe that God can and will redeem it.**
- **Ask God to seal the victory and to produce good spiritual fruit in this area. Ask for Restoration.**

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