

**Give Forgiveness**  
**Live Like You Were Dying – Part 4 of 5**  
**May 2/3, 2009**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?”

<sup>22</sup> “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”

<sup>23</sup> “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.

<sup>24</sup> In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars.

<sup>25</sup> 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.

<sup>26</sup> “But the man fell down before his master and begged him, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.’” <sup>27</sup> Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

<sup>28</sup> “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.

<sup>29</sup> “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.

<sup>30</sup> But his creditor wouldn’t wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

<sup>31</sup> “When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened.

<sup>32</sup> 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.

<sup>33</sup> Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’

<sup>34</sup> Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

<sup>35</sup> “That’s what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart.”

**Matthew 18:21-35**

**1) Receive the forgiveness only Christ can offer**

“For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.”  
**2 Corinthians 5:21**

“There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God’s one and only Son.” **John 3:18**

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”  
**2 Corinthians 5:17**

**2) Forgive those who have hurt me**

“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”  
**Colossians 3:13**

**“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” Matthew 6:12**

**Key Thought:**

**We don’t forgive because people DESERVE IT,  
we forgive because we have been forgiven.**

**“Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.”  
Ephesians 4:32**