



How Do I Keep on Forgiving? Part II

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Matthew 18:21-22
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Review





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Definition of forgiveness: to dismiss or release (Matt.4:20—“*left their nets.*”). My personal act to release the one who sinned against me from my personal right to collect on that moral debt for his offense, giving it over to God for His justice and mercy.

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- Forgiveness may be able to happen without repentance (Mark 11:25), but reconciliation cannot.



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- Distinguishing real from fake repentance:
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- They give time and space to heal

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- Unforgiving servant



²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he had begun to settle them, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵ But since he did not have the means to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell to the ground and prostrated himself before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.’ ²⁷ And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he



seized him and began to choke him, saying, 'Pay back what you owe.' ²⁹ *So his fellow slave fell to the ground and began to plead with him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.'* ³⁰ *But he was unwilling and went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed.* ³¹ *So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened.* ³² *Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.* ³³ *Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And his lord, moved with anger,*



handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. ³⁵ My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.”

Matthew 18:23-35

II. *“He hurt me so deeply that he doesn’t deserve forgiveness.”*



- Unforgiving servant (Matt. 18:23–35).
- We don’t forgive because sins committed against us are manageable or diminished but because we’ve experienced the extravagant mercy and forgiveness of Jesus Christ.

III. *“Why am I still hurting over an offense when I said I forgave her?”*



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- God doesn't forget our sin—he chooses not to remember (Is.43:25)
- Forgiveness is both a decision and a process.

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It's a good thing to remember that the God to whom we turn to when struggling to forgive has already forgiven us and paid the cost to repair the ways we've wounded him.