

GRADUATE STUDIES IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP
COURSE 5: THE ULTIMATE REMINDER (Matthew 18:21-35)
April 12, 2026

THE SITUATION:

²¹ "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother who sins against me? Up to seven times?'" Matthew 18:21 (BSB)

- **PETER'S REAL QUESTION: WHAT'S THE _____ ON _____?**

²² "Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not just seven times, but seventy-seven times!'" Matthew 18:22 (BSB)

- **JESUS' ANSWER: THERE ARE _____.**

³ "...If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. ⁴Even if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times returns to say, 'I repent,' you must forgive him." Luke 17:3-4 (BSB)

- **THE GOAL IS THE _____ OF _____.**

²³ "Because of this, the kingdom of heaven is like..." Matthew 18:23 (BSB)

4 KINGDOM PRINCIPLES ABOUT FORGIVENESS:

²³ "Because of this, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlements, a debtor owing ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Since the man was unable to pay, the master ordered that he be sold to pay his debt, along with his wife and children and everything he owned." Matthew 18:23-25 (BSB)

²⁶ "Then the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Have patience with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷His master had compassion on him, forgave his debt, and released him." Matthew 18:26-27 (BSB)

1. **THE KINGDOM IS RULED BY A GOD THAT OFFERS _____ FORGIVENESS AT _____ TO HIMSELF.**

2. **ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE KINGDOM HAVE BEEN _____ AN _____.**

¹ "...They are corrupt; their ways are vile... ³All have turned away, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one." Psalms 53:1, 3 (BSB)

3. **EVERYONE WHO ACCEPTS _____ ACCEPTS THE _____ TO _____.**

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him, saying, 'Pay back what you owe me!'"
Matthew 18:28 (BSB)

²⁹ "So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you back.'"

Matthew 18:29 (BSB)

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay his debt."

Matthew 18:30 (BSB)

4. FAILURE TO FORGIVE...

- **MAKES ME A _____.**

³¹ "When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and recounted all of this to their master."

Matthew 18:31 (BSB)

- **I'M ON _____ WITH OTHER**

³² "Then the master summoned him and said, 'You wicked servant!'"

Matthew 18:32 (BSB)

- **IS _____ IN GOD'S EYES.**

³² "...I forgave all your debt because you begged me. ³³Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had on you?"

Matthew 18:32-33 (BSB)

- **PROVES I'M _____.**

³⁴ "In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should repay all that he owed."

Matthew 18:34 (BSB)

- **MAKES _____ AND _____ ME**

³⁵ "That is how My heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

Matthew 18:35 (BSB)

² "For with the same judgment you pronounce, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Matthew 7:2 (BSB)

BOTTOM LINE:

I NEED _____ OF _____ TO _____ LIKE _____.

⁵ "The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!'"

Luke 17:5 (BSB)

NEXT STEPS

- **PRAYER PROMPT**

- Ask God if you are harboring unforgiveness in your heart and ask God to forgive the person/people who harmed you.