

April 16, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell Matthew 18:21-35 | "Unlimited Forgiveness"

Scripture References

Matthew 18:21–35 Psalm 103:8–14 Psalm 86:5–8 Isaiah 38:17; 43:25 Micah 7:18–20 Colossians 3:12–13 Luke 17:3–4

Study Questions

- 1. In your own words, define "forgiveness." Why is it often so hard to forgive others? Can you identify the one person you are having difficulty forgiving?
- 2. How have you been guilty of keeping count of offenses against you (18:21)? What does it mean that, "[Love] keeps no record of wrongs" (1 Cor 13:5, NIV)? How can you practice *unlimited* forgiveness (18:22)?
- 3. In your own words, define "grace." When have you been the recipient of extravagant grace from another person (18:23–27)? When have you extended such grace to someone else? How did each experience make you feel?
- 4. Why is it wrong for a Christian to say: "I'll never forgive that offense or that person" (18:28–30)? How does God's forgiveness of your sins help you forgive others? Who do you need to forgive right now?
- 5. How should the unrepentant, unforgiving believer be warned (18:31–35)? How should we interact with believers who refuse to forgive? How can we challenge them to trust in God's providence and release their bitterness (Hebrews 12:15)?

Recommended Reading

Chris Brauns, Unpacking Forgiveness: Biblical Answers for Complex Questions and Deep Wounds (Crossway, 2008)

Tim Keller, Forgive: Why Should I and How Can I? (Viking, 2022)

Erwin W. Lutzer, When You've Been Wronged: Moving from Bitterness to Forgiveness (Moody, 2007)