

Small Group Questions

Sermon: 9 July 2023



SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:21-35

OVERVIEW

In this parable, Jesus tells the story of a servant who had a huge debt wiped away, but he in turn refuses to forgive a lesser debt. Jesus uses this story to highlight the need for his followers to show forgiveness to those who have sinned against them because they themselves have received forgiveness from God.

We see in this story that when we truly receive God's forgiveness, this enables us to forgive. And extending forgiveness makes way for God to release healing from hurt and freedom from sin.

QUESTIONS

1. What do you think our culture says about forgiveness?
2. Read Matthew 18v21-35 again. Discuss the different aspects of the passage that are difficult to grasp. How do Jesus' words stand in contrast to what culture says about forgiveness?
3. In what ways do we (or don't we) live in the reality of the complete forgiveness that we have been shown in Christ? To what extent do we live free from guilt, shame and condemnation in our day to day lives?
4. What are the biggest obstacles for us when it comes to showing forgiveness to others?
5. Are there testimonies in the group of times when someone has chosen to forgive and this has made way for healing and freedom?

Prayer and praise

Spend time thanking God for the forgiveness He has shown us.

If appropriate, spend time in smaller groups praying for people who need to show forgiveness to those who have hurt them.