

## Reflecting on “The Unforgiving Servant” Matthew 18:21-35 | February 4, 2024

### DISCUSS

- 1) **Read Matthew 18:15-20.** What was Jesus teaching about right before he gave this parable?
- 2) According to **Matthew 18:21-22.** What do you think was Peter’s motivation in asking this question in verse 21? How does this compare to Christ’s response in verse 22? Can you think of some scenarios where you might want to ask a question like Peter?
- 3) If we compare our spiritual condition before salvation to the servant in this parable, **verses 23 - 25** what are some biblical truths that we need to remember about our hopeless position?

- 4) **Read verse 26 & 27**, how does this verse reflect what happened to us the day we put our trust in Christ?
  
- 5) According to verses **Matthew 18:28 – 30**, what did the forgiven servant do to his fellow servants? What kind of a spirit is Christ renouncing through this second part of the parable?
  
- 6) **Matthew 18:33–34** tells us what the forgiving master did to the unforgiving servant. What kind of an expectation does God have in the area of forgiveness within His kingdom?
  
- 7) **Matthew 18:35** tells us that Jesus doesn't forgive those who refuse to forgive others. We also see the same exhortation in the Lord's Prayer, **Matthew 6:12**. How do we reconcile this with the idea that if we put our trust in Jesus Christ, He forgives all of our sins?

8. As we see from this parable that an unforgiving spirit is not acceptable in God's kingdom. Discuss among your group how to handle some of the difficult situations that people find themselves when it comes to our forgiving others, such as:

- Forgiving someone whose offense toward you has been life altering.
- Forgiving someone who is now dead.
- Forgiving someone who has never asked for your forgiveness.
- Talking to a person who has offended you.