

This is Us

THE CHURCH DEFINED

Forgive without limits

**Our Christianity is never more on display
than when we are in the crisis of choosing
to forgive again.**

Matt 6:12

*And forgive us our debts, as we also have
forgiven our debtors.*

Matt 6:14

"For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

Matt 6:15

"But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

Any habitually unforgiving person remains unforgiven by God.

Mark 11:25

"And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your transgressions.

Mark 11:26

"But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions."

***You're not saved by forgiving...but...
saved (forgiven) people forgive!***

Luke 6:37

*"And do not judge and you will not be judged;
and do not condemn, and you will not be
condemned; **pardon**, and you will be pardoned.*

Luke 17:4

**"And if he sins against you seven times a day,
and returns to you seven times, saying, 'I
repent,' forgive him."**

1. We have been given a **mandate to forgive**

**No other sin committed by Christians is
treated the way unforgiveness is by
God's Word.**

**Forgiveness:
the decision to release someone from the
obligation that resulted when they injured you.**

**2. Forgiveness is a decision we make.
(Sometimes a process we begin)**

Luke 17:4

**"And if he sins against you seven times a day,
and returns to you seven times, saying, 'I
repent,' forgive him."**

Matt 18:21-22

Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven

Matt 18:23-24

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a certain king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. "And when he had begun to settle them, there was brought to him one who owed him ten thousand talents

Matt 18:25

"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.

Matt 18:26-27

"The slave therefore falling down, prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will repay you everything.' "And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.

Matt 18:28-29

"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.' "So his fellow slave fell down and began to entreat him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you'

Matt 18:30

' "He was unwilling however, but went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed.

**It's not that he couldn't forgive...
He wouldn't forgive.**

Matt 18:31-32

"So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened. "Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

Matt 18:33-34

Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?'"And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.

Matt 18:35

"My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."

**3. We should be known as forgiving people
(It's what we should do...every time)**

**Pretty much every meaningful relationship is
on a trajectory towards forgiveness
or fractured**

a. Rationalizing is not helpful at all.

b. To choose not to forgive is destructive

c. We forgive because God demands it.

James 2:13

**For judgment will be merciless to one who has
shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over
judgment.**

d. The alternative to forgiveness is unsettling.

Matt 18:34

"And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.

**Forgive everyone, for every thing...
every time!**