

(Matthew 18:21-22) Then Peter came up and said to Him, "Lord, how many times shall my brother sin against me and I still forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy-seven times.

--- The unforgiving servant ---

(Matthew 18:23-34) "For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his slaves. And when he had begun to settle them, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. But since he did not have the means to repay, his master commanded that he be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment be made. So the slave fell to the ground and prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you everything,' And the master of that slave felt compassion, and he released him and forgave him the debt. 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 to the ground and began to plead with him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.' But he was unwilling, and went and threw him in prison until he would pay back what was owed. So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their master all that had happened. Then summoning him, his master *said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?' And his master, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he would repay all that was owed him. My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."

- ✓ Forgiveness is NOT _____ that no wrong occurred.
- ✓ Forgiveness is NOT immediate _____.
- ✓ Forgiveness is NOT _____ consequences.
- ✓ Forgiveness is NOT instantly removing _____.

1. Biblical forgiveness _____ the offense to God.

(Matthew 18:27) And the master of that slave felt compassion, and he released him and forgave him the debt.

(Romans 12:18-19) Never repay evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all people. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all people. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God,

2. Biblical forgiveness _____ the mercy I have received from God.

(Matthew 18:33) Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?

(Colossians 3:12-13) So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so must you do also.

3. Biblical forgiveness _____ Christ's sanctifying work in me.

(Matthew 18:35) My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.

(Ephesians 4:30-32) Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. All bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and slander must be removed from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

(Philippians 2:13) For it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for His good pleasure.

"From your heart"

- ✓ Pray _____.
- ✓ Confess _____ responses.
- ✓ Stay _____ to Christ.