Outline for Sunday, October 8, 2023

God, A Self-portrait: A Study of the Parables "You Want Me to do What?"

Text: Matthew 18:21-35

Big Idea: Forgiveness, for the people of God, sets us apart from the world and gives evidence of the work of God in us.

There are two things I want us to note in this text.

- I. The Christian understanding of forgiveness differs remarkably from the world's understanding and demands a life of perpetual forgiveness. (18:21-22)
- II. Our own experience of grace informs and animates our extension of forgiveness. (18:23-35)

Conclusion:

As the people of God we are called to a life of perpetual forgiveness. We can do this because we have experienced the grace of God. We forgive because we are forgiven. I am forgiven by the grace of God and it is by the grace of God I forgive others. Relationships are work. I am responsible before God to do all within my power to be right with others. That will demand a life of forgiveness and grace.