

# HERE AS IN HEAVEN

## Forgive Us As We Forgive Others

March 1, 2026

1. Consider the following definitions of sin and forgiveness to discuss the following questions.

*Sin*: “Missing the mark. The attempt to meet our deepest desires by our own resources.

Pursuing good desires through the wrong means.”

*Forgiveness*: Choosing not to retaliate, or give up the right to pay back or pursue vengeance, choosing to see your ‘offender’ as a child of God (the way God sees us), hence softening our hearts toward them as we are or have been offended by them

A. How do these definitions align with your ideas/beliefs about sin & forgiveness, and what feelings come up when you hear the words? Utilize Matthew 18:23-29 to discuss how these passages have encouraged or challenged a change in perspective regarding the understanding of sin & application of forgiveness.

B. What is it about receiving and extending forgiveness that you find unsettling? What do different debts (cajillion dollars vs coffee & bagel) reveal about our debt before God compared to what others ‘owe’ us?

2. Pastor Jack shared this quote from Tim Keller: “...this does not mean that we can earn God’s forgiveness through our own forgiving towards others, but that we can disqualify ourselves from it. A lack of forgiveness towards others is a direct result of a lack of repentance towards God. We’ve not fully internalized the grace and the love that God has poured out on us. See, the gospel isn’t just about receiving grace; it’s about extending forgiveness to others”. What does this quote reveal to us?

A. Write down the name of someone who offended you and what they did to offend you (name it). Believe that they could give, or offer something to ‘make up’ for their offense; what would it be? Would you want to reconcile with them? What prevents you from taking the next step toward forgiveness? Discuss if willing.