

May 24, 2026

SNAPSHOTS of the KINGDOM

Exploring the Parables of Jesus

Forgiven to Forgive

God's immeasurable _____ calls His
people to forgive _____.

Matthew 18:21-22

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy times seven."

Peter asked a question about rules and limits,
about the law (*Orthopraxy*).

Jesus answered with a lesson about the heart (*Orthopathy*).

Matthew 18:23-25

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt."

One talent equaled about 6,000 denarii—and one denarius was roughly a day's wage.

Ten thousand talents represented an impossible debt.
Roughly 200,000 years of labor.

**"A recognition of sin is the beginning of salvation."
- Martin Luther**

Matthew 18:26-35

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go."

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded."

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'"

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened."

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger, his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. ³⁵ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

How can we be forgiven so much... and then refuse to forgive others?

- Pride
- We minimize our own sin (Ex: "I'm not that bad." or "At least I'm better than most people.")
- Selfishness
- Idolatry

Forgiveness Reflects God's Character (Psalm 103:10-12)

Forgiveness Frees the Forgiver (Ephesians 4:31-32)

Forgiveness Displays the Gospel (Luke 23:34)

"If God's mercy does not take root in the heart, it is not experienced." - Kyle Snodgrass

A Final Call to Action

Who is your "fellow servant"?

Who has wronged you?

Who are you still holding hostage in your heart?