



## MESSAGE NOTES

PRACTICAL TEACHING FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Title: **The Room We Keep Locked**  
Series: **The Rooms We Don't Talk About**  
Text: **Mathew 18:21-35**  
Speaker: **Kevin T. Hardy** Date: **June 7, 2026**

**Big Idea:** Forgiveness is not pretending it didn't happen — it's refusing to let what happened keep happening inside you. We forgive because we have been forgiven.

### THE QUESTION BEHIND THE PARABLE

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?”**(Mt 18:21).

### THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

#### SCENE ONE: THE IMPOSSIBLE \_\_\_\_\_

*“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.** (Mt 18:23–25).*

*“At this the servant fell on his knees before him. **‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’**”*

*The servant's master took pity on him, **canceled the debt and let him go.** (Mt 18:26–27).*

#### SCENE TWO: THE UN PAYABLE \_\_\_\_\_

*“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. (Mt 18:28–31)*

### SCENE 3: THE \_\_\_\_\_

“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. (Mt 18:32–34).

#### WHAT IS NOT FORGIVENESS?

1. FORGIVENESS IS NOT PRETENDING IT DIDN'T \_\_\_\_\_.
2. FORGIVENESS IS NOT THE SAME AS \_\_\_\_\_
3. FORGIVENESS IS NOT A \_\_\_\_\_
4. FORGIVENESS IS NOT \_\_\_\_\_

#### WHAT IS FORGIVENESS?

1. FORGIVENESS IS A \_\_\_\_\_ TO STOP DEMANDING A PAYMENT
2. FORGIVENESS IS \_\_\_\_\_ YOURSELF FROM THE OBLIGATION

***“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.”***

#### WHAT IS THE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR FORGIVENESS?

*“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. **Forgive as the Lord forgave you.**” (Col. 3:13)*

*“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, **just as in Christ God forgave you.**” (Eph. 4:32)*

#### JESUS SAID THIS ON THE CROSS.

***“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” (Luke 23:34)***