

LETTING GO THE JESUS WAY

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

1. THE DEFINITION OF FORGIVENESS

Matthew 18:23-27 23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' 27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

- Forgiveness is release
- Forgiveness is not reconciliation
- Forgiving does not mean that you instantly stop hurting emotionally.
- Forgiveness is not trust
- Forgiveness is not excusing abuse
- Forgiveness = releasing revenge to God

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2. THE DUTY TO FORGIVENESS

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-seven times.

- We don't need to cancel culture, we need a to cancel debts.

Colossians 3.12-14 (SCREEN ONLY)

"Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another, even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."

- Because I am a forgiven person, I am obligated to the King to be a forgiving person
- Forgiveness is the duty of every born-again child of God!

Ephesians 4:32

"Forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."(SCREEN ONLY)

- Forgiveness flows from revelation.
- When we forget how much we've been forgiven, we become harsh toward others.

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3. THE DANGER IN NOT FORGIVING.

Matthew 18:28-34 28 "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' 29 So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' 30 And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. 31 So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. 32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' 34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

- If you refuse to forgive, if you refuse to release that offense, you are the one who suffers!
- Unforgiveness imprisons the one holding it.

-Bitterness becomes identity.

- Offense becomes personality.

- Pain becomes protection.

ASK THREE QUESTIONS:

1. WHO AM I STILL REHEARSING IN MY MIND?
2. WHAT STORY DO I KEEP REPLAYING?
3. HOW HAS THIS HURT SHAPED HOW I SEE MYSELF?

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