



**NO KINGS  
BUT CHRIST**  
THE KINGDOM OF GOD IN PRACTICE  
RADICAL FORGIVENESS



Matthew 18:21-35 NRSV

*Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.*

- Matthew 18:21-35

*<sup>28</sup> But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.*

- Matthew 18:21-35

*32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'*

- Matthew 18:21-35



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*Pray, then, in this way:  
Our Father in heaven,  
may your name be revered as holy.  
May your kingdom come.  
May your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.*

***And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.***

*And do not bring us to the time of trial,  
but rescue us from the evil one.*

- Matthew 6:9-13

We, as followers of Jesus,  
must be forgiving people.

*For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

- Matthew 6:14-15

“Your life as a Christian should make nonbelievers question their disbelief in God.”

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

*So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you,  
if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.*

- Matthew 18:35