

Learning how to live with a willingness to forgive can often be more challenging than we would like for it to be. Depending on the situation, it can seem unnatural and unfair to forgive someone and not hold them accountable for their wrong.

While forgiveness can be very challenging to embrace, as Christ-followers, it is a foundational aspect of our Christianity.

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

The Parable - Matthew 18:21–35

Forgiveness 101

- Peter modeled a natural tendency to perceive forgiveness as having _____. (vs. 21)
- Jesus refuses to _____ forgiveness. Instead, He declares that forgiveness is _____. (vs. 22)
- Through this parable Jesus defines forgiveness as a _____ of life for all who live within His kingdom. (vs. 23)

Lessons From the Parable

1. The servant had a debt that was exponentially _____ than he could ever begin to pay. (vs. 24)
2. Without payment of the debt the servant was destined to live his life in _____. (vs. 25)
3. The only way to be released from his debt was for the servant to plead for _____. (vs. 26)
4. The servant was the recipient of great compassion and forgiveness for a tremendous debt yet, he _____ to extend the same for a much smaller debt. (vv. 28–30)
5. The servant forfeited his freedom. He was sentenced to a life of imprisonment and torture because of his unwillingness to forgive in the _____ he had been forgiven. (vv. 31–35)

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

Answers: boundaries; quantify, limitless; principle; greater; bondage; mercy; failed; same way

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