

# Sermon Notes

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## Forgive Because You Have Been Forgiven

Matthew 18:21-35

Christian Sanich, 8/24/2014

Text sermon questions, during the sermon, to (602) 824-8030

The limits of forgiveness - asked by Peter, answered by Jesus

**Our forgiveness should be limitless.**

(Ref.: Genesis 4:23-24)

To forgive means to release from obligation/consequences.

Parable of the king and his servants

The king forgives the servant's gigantic debt.

The king represents God.

The king's servants represent Christians.

**God has forgiven us our sins, in Christ.**

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The forgiven servant refuses to forgive his fellow-servant.

This debt was significant, but comparatively little.

If we behave this way it's terrible hypocrisy.

**God has forgiven us, in Christ, such a huge debt that we should forgive our brothers in Christ their sins against us, even significant ones.**

The king's punishment of the unforgiving forgiven servant

God will deliver us to earthly torment

**You must forgive from your heart, not superficial.**

This doesn't mean we just do it in our heart, apart from talking with the person.

What should forgiveness look like?

**No revenge. No hate. But more than that.**

**No bitterness. Work on restored relationship.**

**Don't treat them like they owe you.**

Application questions for 8-24-2014 sermon  
Matthew 18:21-35

Has your view of forgiveness changed, based on this sermon? How has it changed?

Do you think you really realize and stay presently aware of what a gigantic sin debt God has forgiven you in Christ?

Why is that important when you consider forgiving others of significant offenses against you?

What is the toughest thing about forgiving someone a bunch of times, possibly for the same offense?

Do you believe that God may allow terrible things in your life (a guilty conscience, problems, misfortunes, maybe illnesses, maybe calamities) if you refuse to forgive your brother in Christ?

(optional, read 1 Corinthians 11:18, then if you want you can skip to the result in 11:30-31)

Have you ever seen what you think may be a case of that in another person's life?

Which is more motivating to you to be forgiving, the possibility of torment or knowing that God has forgiven you so much?

**If real forgiveness means no revenge, no hate, no bitterness, working on restored relationship, not treating them like they owe you, and communicating forgiveness, do you have anyone you have not forgiven that way?**

If so, what are you going to do?

**Do you know a brother or sister in Christ that is presently not forgiving this way?**

If so, what are you going to do?

Bonus: Was there anything new or interesting you learned in this sermon?