

Discussion Questions for “Gospel-Centered Forgiveness”
Matthew 18:21-35, Pastor Marc Krastin, Weekend of March 22, 2026

Outline:

1. The Question of Forgiveness (18:21-22)
2. The Forgiving Master (18:23-27)
3. The Unforgiving Servant (18:28-34)
4. The Warning (18:35)

Questions:

1. Peter thought, in offering forgiveness towards others, he was being extremely generous by suggesting seven times (more than double the Jewish tradition of three). Why is it so tempting for us to want a "limit" on our forgiveness today?
2. The unforgiving servant's debt would be in the billions today. Which was impossible to pay back in a lifetime. How does visualizing the sheer size of this debt change how you view your own sin before God?
3. The master had the right to sell the servant and his family (justice) but chose to take the debt upon himself (mercy). Where do you see the "Gospel" most clearly in this specific part of the story?
4. The unforgiving servant immediately went out and "choked" a fellow servant over a much smaller debt. Why do you think it is so easy for us to forget the massive mercy we've received the moment someone else owes us something?
5. How is "forgiving from the heart" different from just saying "it's okay" to keep the peace?
6. Jesus says we must have "unlimited patience and mercy." What is one practical step you can take this week to actively foster a heart of mercy toward someone who has wronged you?
7. What is the biggest hurdle for you when it comes to forgiving others? Is it a desire for justice, a fear of being hurt again, or something else?