
THE KING &
HIS Cross

Forgiveness from the Heart

Matthew 18:21–35

“If you do not forgive others, then do not think God has forgiven you” -- Martin Luther

Do you forgive others with the same heart that God has forgiven you?

Because Christ has forgiven our immeasurable debt,
we must forgive others without limitation.

First, we must forgive others without keeping count of their sins against us.

Second, we must forgive others like Christ forgives us—form the heart.

Matthew 18

21 Then Peter approached him and asked, “Lord, how
many times must I forgive my brother or sister who
sins against me? As many as seven times?”
22 “I tell you, not as many as seven,” Jesus replied,
“but seventy times seven.”

Heidelberg Catechism

For the sake of Christ's shed blood,
forgive us our sins and the evil that remains in our hearts,
just as Your grace has moved us to forgive others wholeheartedly.
(Question 126)

Matthew 18

23 “For this reason, the kingdom of heaven can be compared to a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 When he began to settle accounts, one who owed ten thousand talents was brought before him. 25 Since he did not have the money to pay it back, his master commanded that he, his wife, his children, and everything he had be sold to pay the debt.

Matthew 18

26 “At this, the servant fell facedown before him and said, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you everything.’ 27 Then the master of that servant had compassion, released him, and forgave him the loan.

28 “That servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii., He grabbed him, started choking him, and said, ‘Pay what you owe!’

Psalm 103:12

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Forgive and forget. Bear the faults of others as you would have them bear with yours. Be patient and understanding.
Life is too short to be vengeful or malicious.

--Phillips Brooks

Matthew 18

29 “At this, his fellow servant fell down and began begging him,
‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.’ 30 But he wasn’t
willing. Instead, he went and threw him into prison until he could
pay what was owed. 31 When the other servants saw what had
taken place, they were deeply distressed and went and reported to
their master everything that had happened.

Simul iustus et peccator

“At the same time righteous and a sinner”

We who have placed faith in Christ alone for salvation are simultaneously righteous and sinners. One the cross, God’s perfect justice and mercy come together for our salvation.

Matthew 18

32 Then, after he had summoned him, his master said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Shouldn’t you also have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ 34 And because he was angry, his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured until he could pay everything that was owed.

Matthew 5:7

Blessed are the merciful
for they will be shown mercy.

Matthew 18

35 So also my heavenly Father will do to you unless every one of you forgives his brother or sister from your heart.”

Hebrews 8:12

For I will forgive their wrongdoing,
and I will never again remember their sins.”

Ephesians 4:32

And be kind and compassionate to one another,
forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

Forgiving from the heart

* I will not bring up the offense and use it against you.
* I will not talk to others about your offense against me.
* I will not harbor bitterness or let the sun go down on my anger.
* I will choose not to remember the offense and cover it with grace.

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