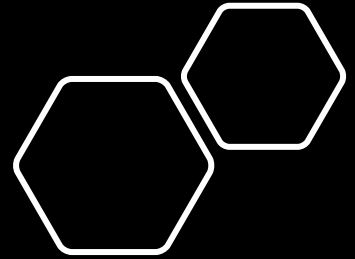


What is Forgiveness?

Matthew 18:21 – 35

Biblical forgiveness
is an intentional act
of obedience in which
we release another
person from our
demand to make
it right.



I. Forgiveness is a Decision



- ²¹ Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?
- ²² Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Amos 1

³ Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:

II. Forgiveness is an Act, Not an Emotion

- **²³ Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.**
- **²⁴ And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.**
- **²⁵ But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.**
- **²⁶ The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.**
- **²⁷ Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.**

III. Forgiveness Should be an Act of Reciprocity

- **²⁸ But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.**
- **²⁹ And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.**
- **³⁰ And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.**

IV. Unforgiveness Invites Torment

- **³¹ So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.**
- **³² Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:**
- **³³ Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?**
- **³⁴ And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.**

1

Confront the
Reality of the
Offense.

2

Intentionally
choose to
Release it.

3

Reciprocate the
forgiveness you
have received.

4

Rearrange the
space in your
life.

5

Remain in the
practice of
Forgiveness