

The Model Church: Forgiveness - Part 2

Matthew 18:21-35

MAIN IDEA: Forgiveness is unlimited, not cheap, undeserved, complete, and mandatory for a Christian.

1. The Definition
2. The Perspective
3. The Decision
4. The Sentence

According to Matthew 5:23-24, what priority does Jesus give to restoring broken relationships?

Read 1 John 4:7-8, 20-21. In what way does our love for others relate to our relationship with God?

In Matthew 5:38-42, what attitude does Jesus say we should have regarding offenses against us?

In Jesus' parable recorded in Matthew 18:23-35, why is the servant punished?

In John 13:8-10, what distinction does Jesus make between bathing the body and washing feet? What does it have to do with forgiveness?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Consider a time when you harbored unforgiveness toward someone. How was the other person affected? How were you affected?

Are there conditions that must be met before you are willing to forgive? What are they?

What has it cost you to forgive someone? What could it cost you?

After forgiving someone, what were the results? How did you feel afterward?

How do your own offenses against God compare to other people's offenses against you?

How does the price you paid to forgive others compare to the price God paid to forgive you?

Why did God pay that price for you, according to Romans 5:8?

Pray:

- Thank God for his willingness to pay the cost of his son, Jesus, to forgive you.
- Ask God to give you love strong enough to pay the cost required to forgive others.
- Ask God to help you forgive when you don't feel like it.

Meditate on one of the key verses this week and memorize it.

REPRODUCE

Did you learn something new from the sermon or this study? Or gain a deeper understanding? Share this new insight with someone.

Ask God if you need to forgive someone. If you do, take care of it today (See Matthew 5:23-24 and Ephesians 4:26).

Do you know of someone who is harboring unforgiveness? Pray for them.

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Matthew 18:21-35
- John 13:8-10
- Ephesians 4:31-32

Additional verses from the study:

- Matthew 5:23-24
- Matthew 5:38-42
- Ephesians 4:26
- 1 John 4:7-8, 20-21
- Romans 5:8