

EXTENDING FORGIVENESS

(King Jesus: The Gospel of Matthew- Part 49)

February 14, 2021

Matthew 18:21–35

Q&A w/ JESUS- Mt 18:21-22

THE STORY- Mt 18:23-35

THE EXAMPLE OF THE KING/MASTER:

“*Took pity*”- God _____ forgiveness

“*Canceled the debt*”- Forgiveness is free but it’s _____

TRUTHS ABOUT FORGIVING:

Forgiving doesn’t mean...

... _____ the offense

... not remembering

... necessarily _____ again

... removing all _____

... _____

Forgiving...

... allows God to handle the _____

... gives others what God _____

Life Group Questions for the Week of February 14, 2021

1. Looking back at your notes from this Sunday’s message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

2. Forgiveness tends to be more of a journey than an event. Sometimes we don’t want to be on that journey. What are some of the reasons we give for holding on to a grudge or not forgiving?

3. Often we think of forgiveness in the context of letting go after we’ve been greatly wronged. But what are some of the small things that happen to us in which we also need to ask for or offer forgiveness?

4. When it comes to forgiveness and reconciliation, how do the ways of the world differ from what the Bible teaches?

5. Read Ephesians 4:31,32. When we choose not to forgive an offense, bitterness can put down roots in our lives. What are some expressions of that kind of bitterness?

6. We saw on Sunday that forgiveness means refusing to seek our own revenge. But doing that can be difficult because it can feel like the other person is getting away with it. Read the example of David not seeking revenge even though he had been wronged by Saul in 1 Samuel 24:1-13.

How and why do you think David was able to not seek justice for himself? What is the most challenging aspect for you in not seeking justice or revenge? How can this passage (along with Romans 12:14-21) help motivate us to forgive instead of seeking revenge?

7. In light of Mt. 5:23,34 and the passage in Mt. 18 we studied on Sunday, who should take the initiative in forgiveness and reconciliation, the offended or the offender?

8. Which of the points about forgiving others from Sunday’s message is the most challenging for you to follow and why?