

A Courageous Plan to Help the Home Team With Unforgiveness (Part 3) (Matthew 18:15-18; NKJV)

July 15, 2018

Big Question: How has unforgiveness hurt your Home Team? **Side Question:** Have you forgiven yourself for failures in your past?

Eight Questions About Unforgiveness That Will Help Your Home Team

1. How do you resolve conflict? (Try to do it in private)

• Matthew 18:15 "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. 16 But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.'

2. How do you deal with people who will not resolve conflict? (Do your part and move on?)

• 17 And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

3. How does heaven view your efforts to resolve conflict? (Heaven supports you)

• 18 "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

Question: Are there boundaries for forgiveness? (Matthew 18:21–22)

4. How often should we forgive people? (There is no limit)

• 21 Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Note: That is 490 times

Question: How do you manage forgiving people in unsafe circumstances that could harm you.

- You can forgive and remove the long-term danger if there is one (Genesis 3:22-24)
- Genesis 3:22-24 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—23 therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

Question: Will you force God to move you out of your Garden of Eden to save you?





5. Have you ever needed to be forgiven? (Have you needed to be forgiven because you owed too much)

• Matthew 18:23-25 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.

Note: Talents were described by the BKC as several million dollars (see below)

6. Have you ever been given another chance you did not deserve?

• Matthew 18:26-27 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' 27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

7. Have you forgotten what you were forgiven for and why?

- Matthew 18:28-30 "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' 29 So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' 30 And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt.
- Note: Denarii were described by the BKC as 1 Day's Wage (see below)

8. Could someone report you for not forgiving?

• Matthew 18:31-35 So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. 32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' 34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. 35 "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

Next Time: We will talk about how stagnation can hurt your Family Team **Question:** Have you ever been tempted to stay in a safe and comfortable place?

Deeper Look Study Notes Below

Note Servants Debt: How much the servant owed his master compared to what he was owed **Source for Wage Comparison: Matthew 18:23-35 (Bible Knowledge Commentary)**

• "Jesus told about a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. One servant owed a large amount, 10,000 talents. **This probably equaled several million dollars,** for a talent was probably a measure of gold, between 58 and 80 pounds. When he could not ... pay, the master ordered that the servant and his wife ... children, and possessions be sold so he could repay as much of the debt as possible. The servant pleaded with his master, begging for time to repay his master. The master took pity on the servant, canceled the debt, and set him free. But shortly thereafter this servant went out and found another servant who owed him a much smaller amount, 100 denarii. A denarius was a Roman silver coin, worth about 16 cents; it represented a laborer's daily wages."