

*Questions
You Have
Asked*

How Do I Forgive?

Outline

- A. Understand forgiveness**
- B. Unconditional forgiveness**
- C. Unlimited forgiveness**
- D. Unilateral forgiveness**
- E. What happens if someone doesn't repent?**

I. Understand Forgiveness

Matthew 18:23-34

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.

I. Understand Forgiveness

Matthew 18:23-34 - continued

27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

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.

I. Understand Forgiveness

Matthew 18:23-34 - continued

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.

I. Understand Forgiveness

A. Why do I need to forgive?

1. So you can have God's forgiveness

Matthew 6:14-15

14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

I. Understand Forgiveness

A. Why do I need to forgive? - continued

2. So God's power can be realized

Matthew 18:18-19

18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

I. Understand Forgiveness

A. Why do I need to forgive? - continued

3. So God's presence can be realized

Matthew 18:20

**For where two or three are gathered together in my name,
there am I in the midst of them.**

I. Understand Forgiveness

B. Forgiveness is from the heart

Matthew 18:35

So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

II. Unconditional Forgiveness

Ephesians 4:32

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

A. The attitude required

B. The audience revealed

C. The acknowledgment remembered

III. Unlimited Forgiveness

Luke 17:1-5

1 Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come!

2 It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.

3 Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.

4 And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.

5 And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.

IV. Unilateral Nature Of Forgiveness

A. Don't wait for the other

Matthew 18:15

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

B. Don't waste away

James 5:9

Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

V. What Happens If Someone Doesn't Repent?

A. Case 1 - A Christian doesn't repent

Matthew 18:16-17

16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

V. What Happens If Someone Doesn't Repent?

B. Case 2 – A Non-Christian doesn't repent

1. Remember Matthew 6:14-15

14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Be like Christ and wait for them to respond

Luke 23:34

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Forgiveness Is Required In A Christian