

# Forgiveness from the heart

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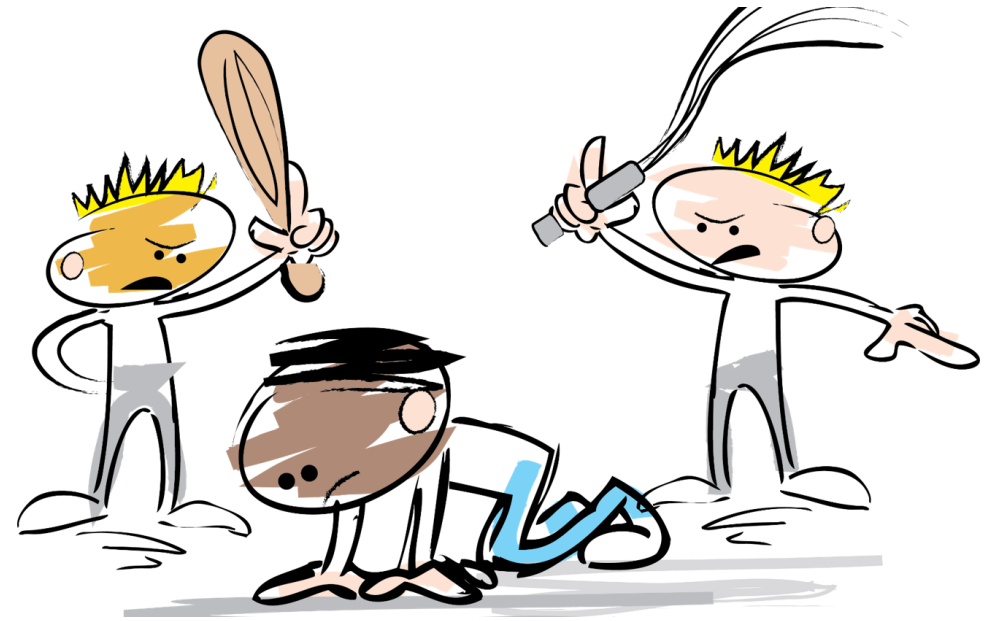




# Forgiveness from the heart

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- Why do we need to forgive
- How do we forgive from the heart?





# Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

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<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.



# Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

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<sup>23</sup> “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.



# Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

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<sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.



# Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

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<sup>31</sup> When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

# We do we need to forgive?

Matthew 5:12

*12 Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors...*



# We do we need to forgive?

Matthew 5:12

*12 Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors...*

*...14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*





# Why do we need to forgive?

**Justice** Giving people what they deserve

**Mercy** Not giving people what they deserve

**Grace** Giving people what they don't deserve



# Why do we need to forgive?

Matthew 18:35

*This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.*

# Forgiving from the heart

It starts with an emotional, honest, heart to heart with God himself where you pour out your pain to him.

*“Dear God, I choose to forgive <NAME> for what he said to me, for the pain that he caused me. I forgive him.”*



# Forgiving from the heart

This is not so much an issue between us and the person who has hurt us, but between us and God.

Freedom cannot depend on the other person else it could not be guaranteed





# Forgiving from the heart

What forgiveness from the heart is and is not

- It is not forgetting
- It is not tolerating sin
- It is not seeking revenge



# How do I respond today?

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*“Lord God, we want to be free in Christ and we want to become fruitful disciples. We don’t want the enemy to have a hold on us any longer. So we say before you now, that we are resolving to forgive all those who have hurt us just as you have freely forgiven us. In the name of Jesus who died that we might be forgiven. Amen”*

