



Part 9 - Grace is our model for forgiveness

- C.S. Lewis said “Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive” do you agree? Why do you think forgiveness is so difficult?

Read Matthew 18:21-35

- Do you think Peter’s suggestion of sevens was unreasonable? In what ways do you put a limit on your forgiveness?
- What was it that caused the king to change his mind about the first servant? What does this tell us about God?
- What made the first servant’s actions towards his fellow servant so deplorable?
- Look at the following verses (2 Corinthians 6:1-2, 1 Peter 4:10-11, 2 Peter 1:2-4) what do they teach us about the correct response to God’s grace?
- Selwyn Hughes said; when people say to me ‘My problem is that I can’t forgive.’ I say ‘No, that is not your problem. Your problem is that you don’t know how much you’ve been forgiven.’ Do you feel that God’s forgiveness & Grace has affected your life and your willingness to forgive others?
- What expectation of forgiveness is found in the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-12)? Why do you think we need to be reminded of this?
- In the story the unforgiving servant is handed over to the jailers to be tortured, Dan suggested that the tortures names might have been ‘anger, bitterness, frustration, malice and resentment’ what symptoms of unforgiveness have you noticed in your own life, or the lives of those around you?
- Lewis Smedes said “when I genuinely forgive, I set a prisoner free and then discover that the prisoner I set free was me.” Have you found this to be true in your own life?
- Martin Luther King Jr said “forgiveness is not just an occasional act: it is a permanent attitude” how can we make this a reality in our own life?