

The Forgiving Heart

Message Series: **Forgiven and Forgiving**

Bible Passage: Matthew 18:21-35

* _____, **Have a Forgiving Heart**

(Matthew 18:35; Matthew 6:12,14-15; Colossians 3:13)

Matthew 18:21-35 (New Living Translation)

21 Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"

22 "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven!

23 "Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. 24 In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. 25 He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

26 "But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' 27 Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

28 "But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

29 "His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded. 30 But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

31 "When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. 32 Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' 34 Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

35 "That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart."

* **In the Process of Forgiving, You Trust God will**

(Romans 13:3-4; Romans 12:19; 1 Peter 2:19-23; 3:9)

Communion song lyrics:

We Will Feast in the House of Zion (by Sandra McCracken)

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion

We will sing with our hearts restored

He has done great things, we will say together

We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire

He is the LORD our God

We are not consumed, by the flood

Upheld, protected, gathered up (Chorus)

In the dark of night, before the dawn

My soul, be not afraid

For the promised morning, oh how long?

Oh God of Jacob, be my strength (Chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed

You are the Faithful one

And from the garden to the grave

Bind us together, bring shalom. (Chorus)

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For Further Study on the Topic of Forgiveness: read When Forgiveness

Doesn't Make Sense by Robert Jeffress or listen / watch the series of

sermons by Jeffress ([http://www.firstdallas.org/media/when-forgiveness-](http://www.firstdallas.org/media/when-forgiveness-doesnt-make-sense/)

[doesnt-make-sense/](http://www.firstdallas.org/media/when-forgiveness-doesnt-make-sense/))

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