

Pint Size Parables

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Forgiven Much

Read Matthew 18:21-25

Peter asks Jesus how many times he is supposed to forgive his brother, perhaps thinking that seven times was a generous amount. But Jesus turns around and tells him he should be willing to forgive him seventy times seven! That's a lot of forgiveness!

But Jesus doesn't stop there. He goes on to tell this parable to explain why we need to forgive others. The reason is revealed clearly by the parable: God has forgiven us a debt far greater than any debt any human can owe us. Since God has forgiven us such a large debt, we ought to be able to forgive others of their debts too. Not only because of the debt forgiven us, but also because God commands us to.

Questions

- 1) How did the slave beg the king for forgiveness? What does this say about how our attitudes should be when coming before the Lord?
- 2) Have you ever experienced forgiveness for something? What was it like?
- 3) Is there someone you carry a grudge against? Make it a point to forgive them.
- 4) Verses 35-36 speak of punishment for those who do not forgive. What do you think this punishment is?