

Part 4 - Matthew 18:21 -35 **How Necessary is it to Forgive Each Other?**

- ❖ Matthew 18 starts with the disciples asking Jesus “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” In verses 1 -20 how does Jesus answer this question?

- ❖ What is the Kingdom of Heaven?

- ❖ What is the basis for the difference between worldly forgiveness and Christian forgiveness? What gives Christians the ability to forgive each other?

- ❖ **Read Matthew 18:21 -35**

- ❖ What is the debt load that the first servant owed to his master? From a rational viewpoint can the servant ever repay his master?

- ❖ What was the debt load that the second servant owed to the first servant? From a rational viewpoint can the second servant ever repay the first servant?

- ❖ What is our debt load that we owe to our Master? Can we ever repay our debt?

Follow up questions

- ❖ Verse 18:23 -25 tell us, “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 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.”
 - ❖ Who initiates the action?

 - ❖ Where does the king's action point us to?

- ❖ In verse 18:27 we are told, “The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.”
 - ❖ What are some other words that could be used for the master's actions toward the servant?

 - ❖ How do we see God's loving grace and mercy in our lives through the master's actions?

- ❖ What is mercy as we live our lives within the kingdom of heaven?

- ❖ What does the kingdom of heaven, the reigning of our Lord mean to us, His Church?

- ❖ Christ, in answering Peter's question states basically that the forgiveness of a brother or sister in Christ should be limitless.
If we feel we are unable to forgive a brother or sister fully (though we want to) where are we to turn?
 - ❖ **2 Corinthians 12:9-10**

- ❖ What does this parable teach us about our debt?

- ❖ How necessary is it to forgive each other?

- ❖ What does this chapter tell us?