

# The Unforgiving Servant

Pastor Mark Wilks, MATTHEW 18:21-35

Revenge is a curse! Jesus Christ is calling his disciples to reverse the curse!

## 1. The lies about forgiveness.

- The bible teaches revenge is OK (lie). Gen. 4:23, Deut. 32:35, Rom. 12:19
- Forgiveness is just a switch you flip (lie). Mt. 18:21
- There are limitations to forgiveness (lie). Mt. 18:22
- Whether I forgive or not is no big deal (lie). Mt. 18:24

## 2. The truth about forgiveness.

- Forgiveness involves anger and recognition of the debt. vs 25
- Forgiveness begins with compassion. Mt. 18:27
- God's motivation and actions are inseparable. Mt. 18:2

## 3. The truth about unforgiveness.

- The first man had been forgiven 60 million denarii and cannot forgive 100 denarii.

We cannot embrace God's forgiveness if we are so busy clinging to past wounds and nursing old grudges. T. D. Jakes

- Unforgiveness hurts me and others. Mt. 18:31
- Unforgiveness does not go unnoticed by God. Mt. 18:32
- Unforgiveness will lead to chastisement from God. Mt. 18:34, Heb. 12:10
- You cannot hold fast to an unforgiving spirit and the Holy Spirit at the same time.

The state of your heart dictates whether you harbor a grudge or give grace, seek self-pity or seek Christ, drink human misery or taste God's mercy. Max Lucado

## Application: Steps we can take toward forgiveness.

- 1) Look in the mirror and see God's grace over your sin.
- 2) Look with compassion upon those who sin against you.
- 3) Pray for those you need to forgive.
- 4) Surrender to the Lord and ask for help in granting forgiveness.