

Oct 4, 2020  
The Power of Restoration



#### Key Scriptures

*Mat 18:24-35 NASB "When he had begun to settle them, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. (25) "But since he did not have the means to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made. (26) "So the slave fell to the ground and prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.' (27) "And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt. (28) "But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he seized him and began to choke him, saying, 'Pay back what you owe.' (29) "So his fellow slave fell to the ground and began to plead with him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.' (30) "But he was unwilling and went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed. (31) "So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened. (32) "Then summoning him, his lord \*said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. (33) 'Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?' (34) "And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. (35) "My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."*

*Mat 18:15-17 "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. (16) "But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that **BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED.** (17) "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.."*

#### The Big Point:

Forgiveness is at the heart of justice. The power of forgiveness that Jesus as released to us is to be used to bridge the gap between God and the world and restore our relationships with others. This can only happen when we own our emotions and use the power Jesus has given us to walk in freedom.

#### Important points from the message:

- Living in unforgiveness becomes the infection of bitterness and judgment.
- Forgiveness is a choice not a feeling.
- Surrender the right to toxic emotions.
- Sin is specific, repentance is specific, and forgiveness is specific.

#### Questions that may get your group talking.

- What are characteristics of toxic emotions and toxic people?
- Why do people want you to pick up their offenses?
- What did repentance and forgiveness look like in the house you grew up in?

#### Questions to get your group thinking:

- Have you developed a healthy model of repentance and forgiveness in your home?
- How can you guard your heart against offenses?
- What area of your life do you need the healing?

#### Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Spend time alone with Jesus and ask him to heal your wounded heart.
- Look for an occasion to forgive quickly.