

TORMENT AND UNFORGIVENESS

May 30, 2021 Matthew 18:21-35 by Bob Branch
The Power and Complexity of Forgiveness, part 7

BIG QUESTION: What happens when we do not forgive?

Matthew 18:21-35 “Lord, how often shall my brother or sister sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus said to him, “I don’t tell you until seven times, but, until seventy times seven.

³² Then his lord called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me.

³³ Shouldn’t you also have had mercy on your fellow servant, even as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ His lord was angry, and delivered him to the tormentors until he should pay all that was due to him. ³⁵ This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” **Matthew 18:21-35**

The BAMB IDEA: “God expects you to forgive. Never stop forgiving.”

1. It is how God’s _____ works.
2. You _____ something you cannot possibly pay.
“the compensation due sin is death...” **Romans 6:23** LEB
3. There are _____ to this debt you owe.
“Your iniquities are separating you from your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not listen.” **Isaiah 59:2** CSB
4. You are _____ a great debt because of the Master’s generosity.
“God is generous.” **James 1:5**

“God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them.” **2 Corinthians 5:19**

5. This should change your _____.
“Just as I forgave you...”
6. You should give _____.
7. Not forgiving is _____ to the Master.
8. There are _____ consequences to not forgiving.
“God give them over...” **Romans 1:28**

BECKY BRANCH INTERVIEW

What price might you be presently paying for failing to forgive?

PRACTICAL STEPS FORWARD

1. Step into the steps of forgiving and keep moving through it.
 - a. Identify the PERSON and offense.
 - b. Identify the EMOTIONS and experiences within you.
 - c. Embrace the NEED for forgiveness.
 - d. Choose to RELEASE forgiveness.
 - e. Set clear BOUNDARIES where appropriate.
2. Pray the Lord’s Prayer daily, stall on the forgive portion.
3. Make forgiving a habit.