

Everyday **FAITH** Family Page

Delivered

Law/Gospel

I sin when I do not forgive others because it shows that I do not trust that God forgives me. **Jesus gives me faith to believe in Him and trust that He forgives my sins. He enables me to forgive others.**

Bible Words

As the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Colossians 3:13

Prayer

Dear heavenly Father, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to die in our place to pay the price we owe You for our sins. Jesus' action on our behalf restored our relationship with You. For Jesus' sake, You forgive our sins. Fill us with the same forgiving love that You show us so that we can forgive others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Jesus Teaches about an Unforgiving Servant

Matthew 18:21–35

Peter sets things up for Jesus perfectly. How often shall we forgive? It's likely that Jesus' response frustrated or at least confused Peter. Our Lord's goal is to pique his attention. Rather than a specific number of times, Jesus' point is that forgiveness flows without limit.

With this in mind, Jesus' parable makes perfect sense. The king, having no debt whatsoever, comes to settle with his servants. Out of pure mercy, the king forgives the servant who owes him an immeasurable sum that the servant could never repay. We might assume that such an act of generosity would arouse the servant to similar benevolence. Not so. Ignoring or at least forgetting his master's mercy, the servant confronts a fellow servant to settle a relatively insignificant debt of three months' wages. Finding the servant unable to pay, the forgiven servant casts the other into prison.

Jesus' goal is that we connect ourselves to the first servant, recognizing God's immense mercy in Christ, forgiving our unpayable debt at His own expense at the cross. Yet, so often, we are quick to receive the Lord's forgiveness and slow to follow suit with our debtors.