

# Sermon Notes

Life Action Redux/Warm Up #4: "Forgiveness"

Matthew 18:21-35

5/15/22

1. What do you \_\_\_\_\_ about forgiveness, and where did you \_\_\_\_\_ it?
  - a. In some ways the \_\_\_\_\_ Christian \_\_\_\_\_ boils down to this question.
  - b. Yet so many walk around with \_\_\_\_\_ about forgiveness that just \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. And the destructive consequences of this, both for \_\_\_\_\_ and for \_\_\_\_\_, are enormous.
2. So, today we turn our attention to the word of God here in Matthew 18 as \_\_\_\_\_ seeks to set Peter \_\_\_\_\_ (and all of us) about this all-important topic.
3. There six important things about forgiveness here that we need to look at.
  - a. Forgiveness is not \_\_\_\_\_ and general but rather \_\_\_\_\_ and specific. (vs. 21)
    - i. It is about \_\_\_\_\_ brother and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii. And it is about a specific \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ can forgive your brother but you.
    - iv. You can forgive \_\_\_\_\_ but your brother.
    - v. Though others are \_\_\_\_\_ and can share their concern and seek to help (vs. 31), you alone have the \_\_\_\_\_ to forgive that brother for his specific sin against you.
    - vi. Forgiveness must be employed \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Forgiveness is not \_\_\_\_\_ but rather the desire for it. (vs. 15-20)
    - i. The simple fact that reconciliation has not been \_\_\_\_\_ does not mean that forgiveness has not been \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii. The entire process of vs. 15-20 is designed to restore \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iii. However, relationship cannot be restored with just a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iv. It also requires the \_\_\_\_\_ of the only one who can express it.
    - v. Even when forgiveness is employed, \_\_\_\_\_ relationship may occur.
  - c. Forgiveness is not a \_\_\_\_\_ but rather a \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 21-22)
    - i. Jesus is not correcting Peter's \_\_\_\_\_; he is correcting his \_\_\_\_\_/motivation.
    - ii. It isn't about numbers or \_\_\_\_\_; it is about \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 17:3-4)
    - iii. This is the only way we can go from \_\_\_\_\_ keepers to \_\_\_\_\_. (Col. 3:12-13)
  - d. Forgiveness is not a matter of \_\_\_\_\_ but rather of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - i. Justice \_\_\_\_\_ recompence. (vs. 28-30)
    - ii. Mercy \_\_\_\_\_ restoration through repentance. (vs. 32-33)
    - iii. Though we may have a "\_\_\_\_\_" claim against a brother, we do not take the path of "\_\_\_\_\_" in seeking to address it.
      - a. A \_\_\_\_\_ for justice (that righteousness be done) is a good thing; a \_\_\_\_\_ for justice (that recompence be paid) is not.
      - b. If you want to bring two parties together lead them in the pursuit of \_\_\_\_\_; if you want to divide them lead them in the pursuit of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. Forgiveness is not \_\_\_\_\_ but rather \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 35)
    - i. For it reveals a heart that has learned forgiveness at the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 32-34)

- ii. This servant went through the \_\_\_\_\_ of having his debt forgiven, but showed that he had not \_\_\_\_\_ anything about forgiveness in the process.
    - a. This was already \_\_\_\_\_ in his crazy plea that if given a chance he could pay back \_\_\_\_\_. (\$10,000,000,000?) (vs. 26)
    - b. He obviously didn't really understand what he had been \_\_\_\_\_.
  - iii. Anyone who has been forgiven the \_\_\_\_\_ debt that we had with God could never demand the relatively small debt (\$15,000) others have had with us.
    - a. Though these debts are not \_\_\_\_\_, they simply do not \_\_\_\_\_.
  - iv. Though hurt and scars may \_\_\_\_\_, only the path of forgiveness from the \_\_\_\_\_ can begin to \_\_\_\_\_ these. The path of justice cannot.
  - v. Refusing to forgive, then, is not \_\_\_\_\_; it is \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 32)
  - vi. Is your primary identity "\_\_\_\_\_" or "\_\_\_\_\_"?
    - f. Forgiveness is not \_\_\_\_\_ but rather \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 35)
      - i. From a \_\_\_\_\_ perspective it is impossible.
      - ii. From a \_\_\_\_\_ perspective it is not.
      - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ is the great forgiver.
      - iv. Allow his \_\_\_\_\_ who lives in you to lead you through it.
        - a. The first step will be the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What do you \_\_\_\_\_ about forgiveness, and where did you \_\_\_\_\_ it?
- a. May each of us show in our true \_\_\_\_\_ to forgive that we know all these things about forgiveness and that we learned them at the \_\_\_\_\_.