

Offering God's Forgiveness Matthew 18:21-35

We don't deserve that forgiveness but God offers it anyway.

1. We love $\underline{\text{forgiveness}}$ if we can choose $\underline{\text{when to forgive}}$ and when not.

Jesus put no limit on forgiveness because true forgiveness comes from a heart of love, and love keeps no record of wrongs (1 Cor. 13:5).

Jesus also gives us a warning to not be one of "those people" who hurt other people with our words and actions.

When you offer forgiveness, it benefits <u>you more than the</u> offender.

It simply means that we will no longer be controlled by the offense because we have given it to God to handle as he sees fit.

2. We expect <u>unconditional grace</u> from God while excusing our <u>long-held grudge</u> against someone else.

One of the things we resist most in life is "releasing" the desire for "payback" toward our offenders.

3. The extent of God's <u>mercy</u> depends on the amount of <u>mercy you express to others</u>.

It simply makes no sense for a person who has freely received <u>God's forgiveness</u>, to then <u>deny that forgiveness</u> to another.



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