



REVOLUTION

the transformational teachings of Jesus

²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²²Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

70X7=490 ‘Don’t hold grudges’

²³“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

28 “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

29“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ 30“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³²“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. ³⁵“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The servant caused his own incarceration



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God's grace towards us should produce a response of grace in us towards others.

Has God's grace transformed your view of others, even those who've wronged you?

Are you willing to give up your perceived right of retribution?

³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Eph 4:32

¹³Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Col 3:13

Matthew 18:21-35

“You see, just at the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.”

Romans 5:6

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Matthew 18:21-35

“³At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. ⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.”

Titus 3:3-7

‘Forgiveness is a beautiful word until you have something to forgive.’

CS Lewis

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Forgiveness is not synonymous with
Reconciliation

Forgiveness is between you and God

Reconciliation has to do with
relationship

Resolution has to do with issues

Forgiveness is sometimes extended for
normal relational hurts

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Our forgiveness does not absolve the abuser of guilt or consequence

Forgiveness is separate from discipline

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Forgiveness is often ongoing, revisited,
and grown into

Pain will not instantly vanish

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A lack of forgiveness has dire
consequences in our lives

emotionally, spiritually,
relationally & physically

Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiveness is not forgetting

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Forgiveness does not mean
you lose & they win

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Forgiveness does not mean
you lose & they win

“The fully forgiven man does not rejoice in his own forgiveness but in the divine love to which he owes it; and his past sin persists in his experience no longer as a source of shame but as the occasion of a new wonder in his adoration of the love divine.” Alan Paton

Forgiveness is hope

“As you read the Bible, it becomes very clear that forgiveness is not optional for the Christ-follower. God sets the standard so high because he knows how much is at stake in your life. Bitterness and un-forgiveness are a cancer that will eventually destroy you from the inside out. Forgiveness is the scalpel that removes the tumor of bitterness. This doesn't mean you'll always be able to forgive and be done with it. You may have to keep forgiving again and again until you know you've released the offender. But forgiveness is a choice you can make and that God expects.” Rick Warren

Forgiveness is a constant recognition of our own need of grace

“Sin can be well guarded, but free from anxiety it cannot be. We are all sinful, therefore whatever we blame in another we shall find in our own bosoms.” Seneca

Matthew 18:21-35

A woman's story

A handprint graphic is centered on the page, with rays of light emanating from it. The word "REVOLUTION" is written in large, bold, red letters across the bottom of the handprint. The letter "O" is white and stands out from the rest of the word.

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“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover the prisoner was you. It is the giving up of the possibility of a better past.”



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“There is no revenge as complete as forgiveness”

¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Romans 12:17-20

Have you experienced God's grace so deeply it transforms your view of others, even those who've harmed you?

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