

MATTHEW

December 18, 2022

Matthew 18:21-35

READ

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QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. Peter raises the issue of interpersonal sin & personal forgiveness. Give a definition of forgiveness. (What does forgiveness apply to? What does forgiveness *not* apply to?)
2. Why does Peter ask how often he is to forgive his brother (v. 21)?

What is suggested by "Up to seven times?"

3. What is Jesus suggesting by forgiving "up to seventy times seven" (v. 22)?
4. What is the essential underlying attitude that makes forgiveness possible (c.f., v. 4)? Describe this dynamic.
5. How are relationships impacted when there is an absence of forgiveness?

How are relationships impacted when forgiveness is present or practiced?

6. How does the king, in the parable, reflect the two sides of God's nature (vv. 27, 34)?

7. On what basis should the first servant have treated his fellow servant differently (vv. 32-33)?

8. Summarize Jesus' application of the parable (v. 35).

Why is this verse "a hard saying"?

What is the most difficult part of this verse to process?

9. Can you describe a time when you forgave someone of their sin against you? How did it impact the relationship?

Can you describe a time when someone forgave you for a sin against them?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will meditate on Jesus' forgiveness of me this week by . . .

I will forgive _____ this week by . . .