

THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

Biblical Passages: Matthew 18:21-35

Memory Verses: 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Table Talk Question:

Do you find it easier to ask for forgiveness or to extend forgiveness to others? Explain.

1. Believers are expected to generously _____ people who sin against them (Matthew 18:21-22).
2. Believers have received _____ and _____ forgiveness from God (Matthew 18:23-27).
3. Believers who _____ to forgive others will not receive God's forgiveness (Matthew 18:28-35).

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why is it hard to forgive someone for a single offense? Why is it even harder to forgive someone for repeated offenses?
- How have you felt when someone honored your request for forgiveness? How have you felt when your request for forgiveness was rejected?
- Is there anyone in your life whom you need to forgive? What's keeping you from forgiving them?
- What are some physical, emotional, and spiritual consequences for refusing to forgive others?

"FOR FREE" THOUGHT

"Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive."— *C. S. Lewis*