

Today's Message: "How Can I Ever Forgive Myself?"

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

²¹ Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart." (Matthew 18:21-35, ESV)

If Psalm 103:10-12 is true...

¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (ESV)

(see also Rom. 7 & 8, Eph. 1:7-10, Col. 1:13-14, 1 John 1:5-10)

...then why don't we live in God's freedom of forgiveness?

490 Part 1

Pastor Kent Chevalier

November 8 & 9, 2014

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How do we walk in God's freedom of forgiveness?

1. Realize
2. Repent
3. Receive
4. Rest

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Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. If Psalm 103:10-12 is true, why are you holding on to what God has already cast away?
2. What does Romans 8:1-4 tell us about the believer's standing before God?
3. Now read Romans 8:31-39. Carefully consider each of Paul's questions from the standpoint of self-condemnation.
4. If your attitude toward yourself doesn't match God's perspective, what can you do to bring it into alignment with His Word?
5. What conclusions does Paul draw about the possibility of being separated from Christ's love (vv. 35-39)?

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