

One Another
Part Five: Forgiveness
Matthew 18:21-35
June 29, 2025

1. The gospel offers God's forgiveness for sin through the cross.
 - Sin is failure to conform to God's righteous character (Romans 3:23; Leviticus 11:44)
 - Because he is just, God cannot simply overlook sin (Exodus 34:6-7; Psalm 7:11; Isaiah 59:1-2)
 - Christ's atonement was essential to satisfy God's justice (Romans 3:25-26)
 - God will not forgive without our repentance (Luke 5:32; Luke 13:1-3; Psalm 32:5; Proverbs 28:13)
 - Faith-initiated repentance brings redeeming forgiveness (1 John 1:9; Colossians 1:14)
2. Since God has forgiven us, believers are called to forgive fellow-believers (Matthew 18:21-22; Luke 17:3)
 - Forgiveness doesn't mean:
 - ✓ we treat the sin as if it didn't matter.
 - ✓ we restore full trust.
 - ✓ we eliminate all consequences.
 - ✓ God has forgiven them.
 - Forgiveness includes:
 - ✓ Resisting hatred and revenge.
 - ✓ Praying for God to change their heart.
 - ✓ Seeking reconciliation if warranted.
3. We should always be ready to forgive (Matthew 18:21-35)
 - We forgive because we've experienced God's far-greater forgiveness (Colossians 3:12-13)
 - There are serious consequences when we fail to forgive.