

Forgiveness: Quantity or Quality?

September 18, 2022

Text: *Matthew 18:21-35*

Engage Our Forgiveness Emotions

- Seven times: the feeling of _____.
- Seventy times seven: the feeling of _____.
- \$5.76 billion forgiven: the feeling of _____.
- \$9,600 not forgiven: the feeling of _____.

Don't Miss the Point of God's Forgiveness

- The innocent _____ the debt of the guilty.
- Unforgiveness is _____ among Christ's followers.

The Painfully Difficult, Unnatural Choice

- Pursuing _____ and retaliation.
- Pursue forgiveness from _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- When you've been in a place of needing to give or receive forgiveness, what emotions did you experience?
- Do you think Peter was catching on to Jesus' new lifestyle by suggesting good people forgive up to seven times? Why or why not?
- What does Jesus do to the idea of placing quantity limits on forgiveness?
- How difficult is it to forgive a person for the same offense over and over? Why would Jesus command us to do this?
- Why do you think that genuine forgiveness requires the innocent to absorb the debt of the guilty? How did Jesus demonstrate this principle?
- What does "the innocent absorbing the debt of the guilty" look like in daily life?
- What are the dangers of pursuing punishment and retaliation? Why do we sometimes choose this path?
- How can we sincerely forgive repentant repeat offenders? Why do you think forgiveness must come "from the heart?"