

# MATTHEW 18:21-35

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In the parable of the Unforgiving Servant (or the Unmerciful Servant), Jesus outlines the story of a servant who receives an amazing gift of forgiveness, but selfishly refuses to pass it on.

Forgiveness is not a uniquely Christian virtue, but Jesus commands that we forgive differently to how the world suggests.

Our identity and purpose are tied to this; since Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins, we ignore the command to forgive others at our peril.

Anything that gets in the way of us aligning ourselves with our God-given identity as his forgiven children takes us further from our purpose - and stops us from being effective disciples, members of the body, and builders of the Kingdom.



## 01 — He paid the debt

Jesus paid the debt of our sin on the cross, which we gratefully receive. Who else in your life do you owe a debt of gratitude to?



## 02 — Looking inward

What situations do you know of that could be improved by forgiveness and mercy breaking through? This can be in your life, your community, or the world.



## 03 — The process of forgiveness

What needs to happen in the process of forgiveness - both before you forgive, and after?



## 04 — Practising what (Matt) preaches

Paul says we should run the race of faith without heavy burdens. What burdens have you seen or experienced that can make living your God-given purpose difficult, in daily life and in the Church?

