

# Bible Study: “Restoring Relationships & Releasing Forgiveness”

## Matthew 18:15–35 (KJV)

**Objective:** To teach believers how to handle conflict biblically, pursue restoration, walk in unity, and extend continual forgiveness just as God forgives us through Christ.

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### 1. Go to Your Brother in Love

#### Key Verse

*“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone...” — Matthew 18:15*

#### Bible Study Point

Jesus teaches that conflict should first be handled privately and lovingly, with the goal of restoration—not embarrassment.

#### Supporting Scriptures

- “A soft answer turneth away wrath...” — Proverbs 15:1
- “Let all your things be done with charity.” — 1 Corinthians 16:14

#### Practical Application

- Address problems directly instead of gossiping.
  - Seek healing, not revenge.
  - Mature believers pursue peace first.
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### 2. God Values Agreement and Unity

#### Key Verse

*“Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them...” — Matthew 18:19*

#### Bible Study Point

Unity among believers invites the power and presence of God.

### Supporting Scriptures

- “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” — Psalm 133:1
- “Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” — Ephesians 4:3

### Practical Application

- Pray together instead of fighting each other.
  - Healthy relationships strengthen the church.
  - Agreement opens the door for spiritual growth.
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## 3. Forgiveness Must Be Continual

### Key Verse

*“I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.” —*

**Matthew 18:22**

### Bible Study Point

Jesus teaches that forgiveness is not limited by numbers. Believers must develop hearts that continually forgive.

### Supporting Scriptures

- “Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another...” — Ephesians 4:32
- “Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another...” — Colossians 3:13

### Practical Application

- Forgiveness frees your heart from bitterness.
  - Holding grudges blocks peace.
  - God calls believers to forgive repeatedly.
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## 4. Never Forget How Much God Forgave You

### Key Verse

“Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?” — **Matthew 18:33**

### Bible Study Point

The parable of the unforgiving servant reminds believers that those forgiven greatly should also forgive others.

## Supporting Scriptures

- “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven...” — Psalm 32:1
- “And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” — Matthew 6:12

## Practical Application

- Remember the mercy God showed you.
  - Extend grace to people who fail.
  - Forgiven people should become forgiving people.
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# 5. Bitterness Brings Bondage

## Key Verse

“And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors...” — **Matthew 18:34**

## Bible Study Point

Unforgiveness creates spiritual torment, while forgiveness brings freedom and peace.

## Supporting Scriptures

- “Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you...” — Hebrews 12:15
- “Cease from anger, and forsake wrath...” — Psalm 37:8

## Practical Application

- Bitterness hurts the person holding it.
  - Forgiveness restores peace with God and others.
  - Release what wounded you and trust God with it.
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# Encouragement

Jesus does not ignore conflict—He teaches believers how to overcome it. In Matthew 18:15–35, Christ shows that mature faith seeks restoration, values unity, and practices continual forgiveness. When believers forgive others, they reflect the mercy God has already shown them through Christ.