



Cycle A - XXIV Sunday in Ordinary Time

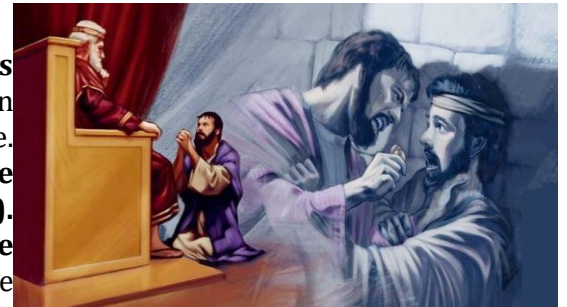
Sirach 27, 30-29, 7; Psalm 103; Romans 14, 7-9; Mathew 18, 21-35

Forgive seventy times seven times

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion, the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."

Reflection

Peter asks Jesus how many times he must forgive. What does Jesus answer? Jesus answers seventy times seven. The number seven in the bible signifies perfection. To be perfect, we must always forgive. **Jesus teaches the importance of forgiving with a parable about the Kingdom of God (those that accept Jesus as King in their hearts). Who is the king? God. Who is the servant? A sinner. Why does the king forgive his debts?** The King felt sorry for him when he fell before him begging and promising to repay. **When we sin, what should we**



do to receive God's forgiveness? Repent from the heart and ask for forgiveness. Also, forgive others who hurt us. **What did the servant do after he was forgiven?** He sent a fellow servant to jail for not repaying a small debt he owed him. **How did the king react when he heard of this?** He sent him to jail until he repaid his debt because he was not equally compassionate as the king had been to him. **What does God want from us?** God wants us to forgive those who hurt us, just as He forgives us when we are sorry for our sins. It is not easy, but we can ask Him to help us with his Grace.

Activity

On the following page, put the pictures in the order they occurred by placing the corresponding number in the box. Make a book by coloring, cutting, and gluing the pictures onto a colored paper which has been folded in half twice, cut, and stapled on the left. Glue the prayer on the back.

Prayer

Good and merciful God, who cannot ignore a contrite heart, help me to repent of my sins; and help me to always forgive, especially _____.

Song: Forgive One Another, We Are United, (Ctrl Click) https://youtu.be/kZ_wCZ1gPN4, (3-7 yrs.)

A Heart that Forgives, fontz2001, https://youtu.be/iUV5T9JJZ0?si=ciUW_kVUtKIqVHBj (8+ yrs.)

PPT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1B4-hBXi9wzmHDRoo-H2rZwYw52FfpH7S/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtfpof=true&sd=true



FORGIVE SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

Matthew 18:21-35



Jesus teaches us
to forgive always,
just as God always
forgives us.

Draw something that
is hard for you to forgive
and ask Jesus
to help you.

TRUE OR FALSE

Mark with ✓ if true or with X if false.

- ♥ The servant owed a lot of money to the king.
- ♥ The king did not want to forgive him.
- ♥ The servant forgave his fellow servant.
- ♥ The king was angry because the servant had no mercy.
- ♥ God wants us to forgive always.

T	F
T	F
T	F
T	F
T	F



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The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

Mathew 18: 21-35

Instructions: Place the pictures in the correct order by placing a number in the box in the order in which they occurred. Make a book by coloring, cutting, and gluing the pictures onto a colored paper which has been folded in half twice, cut, and stapled on the left. Glue the prayer on the back.



Good and merciful God, who cannot ignore a contrite heart, help me to repent of my sins; and help me to always forgive, especially_____.

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