



A Place where heaven and earth meet,
where people encounter God's generosity
and healing presence.

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Pastor Jim Coyl
The Beach Church Podcast

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost **September 13, 2026**

Welcome

Call to Worship Based on Matthew 18:21-35

Leader: How often shall we forgive?

People: As often as we have been forgiven.

Leader: God's mercy is not measured or withheld.

People: God calls us to extend that same mercy to one another.

Leader: Let us release resentment and receive grace.

People: With grateful hearts, we come to worship the God of boundless forgiveness.

All: Let us worship God!

Music

Scripture Reading Matthew 18:21-35 - A parable of forgiveness

18:21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

18:22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

18:23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

18:24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him,

18:25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

18:26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'

18:27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

18:28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.'

18:29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'

18:30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

18:31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

18:32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

18:33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

18:34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

18:35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Music

Sermon

"Forgive and Forgive"

Jim Coyl

Pastoral Payer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Music

Benediction

Forgiven and Forgiving

Peter asks Jesus for a number. How many times must I forgive? Seven times? Jesus refuses to make forgiveness a matter of calculation.

Dallas Willard reminds us that the life Jesus offers is not simply a list of difficult things we must force ourselves to do. It is life in the kingdom of God—a life in which, through our growing relationship with Christ, we are gradually transformed into people who increasingly reflect his character.

The unforgiving servant had received an unimaginable gift of mercy, yet he could not extend mercy to another. The tragedy was not simply that he broke a rule. He had failed to allow the forgiveness he received to become part of who he was.

Perhaps that is the deeper question this parable asks of us: Has God's grace reached far enough into our hearts that we can begin to release our need to keep score, to get even, or to hold another person forever captive to the past?

Forgiveness does not mean pretending that no wrong was done. Nor does it mean that wounds do not hurt. But in the kingdom of God, we need not live imprisoned by the injuries we have suffered. We are learning from Jesus to become people who know themselves to be forgiven—and who, because of that grace, are increasingly able to forgive.

The heart of the kingdom is a forgiven heart becoming a forgiving heart.