**THE HEART OF FORGIVENESS COL 3:13 and Matt 18:21-35**

What is forgiveness?

Forgiveness is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the debt and taking the loss rather than making the other person \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**We *extend* God’s forgiveness because we’ve *experienced* God’s forgiveness.**

**POINT 1. Understanding the magnitude God’s forgiveness.**

a.) out of pity for him

b.) forgave him the debt

A denarius is a day’s wage: Today…..($10/hr x 8) = $80/day// 100 Denarii is ~ $8,000. (debt owed the Servant)

1 year’s wage ~ 21,000

1 talent = ~20 years wages = $420,000

10,000 talents x $420,000 = $4.2 billion (debt owed the king)

**$4,200,000,000 vs $8,000.**

**POINT 2: Extending God’s forgiveness to others.**

*“Jesus sees no incongruity in the actions of a heavenly Father who forgives so bountifully and punishes so ruthlessly, and neither should we. It is precisely because He is a God of such compassion and mercy that he cannot possibly accept as His those with no compassion and mercy…. Those who are forgiven must forgive, unless they show themselves incapable of receiving mercy.”*

*D. Carson, Commentary on Matthew*

v33 “**And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’”**

**APPLICATION:** The church is a group redeemed people in process. It’s not a matter of if, but when we fail to love someone.

1. Pray. Is there anyone you are making “pay”? Be reminded of the forgiveness extended to you in the gospel.
2. Be open that it may not be something sinful but simply a misunderstanding.
3. Similarly, it may not be something where someone has sinned against you, but you have a different perspective about something.
4. Seek to understand with questions: Prov 20:5, 18:13,15
5. ‘Go to them’. Go in person - humbly, with questions and possibly often as needed (it may not be resolved in one meeting). Ask for additional help if needed.
6. Check your own heart to see if you “have a log in your eye”.
7. Remind yourself God is sovereign and at work through the circumstance in both you and the other person.