

You Asked For It
Unforgiveness

MAIN STATEMENT

We have received extravagant forgiveness in Jesus & through Jesus we can extend extravagant forgiveness to others.

Colossians 3:12-13 (ESV)

*“12 Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, **forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.**”*

Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)

*“32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.**”*

“Forgiveness is opening your hands & releasing the prisoner & realizing the prisoner was you.” -Martin Luther

PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

“21 Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. 23 “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. 24 When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ 29 So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ 30 He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. 32 Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ 34 And

in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. 35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

TAKEAWAYS FROM THE PARABLE!

- 1.) In Christ, we have received extravagant forgiveness & grace.
- 2.) Because we have received extravagant forgiveness in Christ, as Christians, we should now extend extravagant forgiveness.

HOW DO I BE A FORGIVING PERSON?

Only Jesus can give you the grace you need to have this kind of forgiving heart.

BATTLE OF THE WILLS

Luke 9:23 (ESV)

“23 “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

*“Forgiving those who have hurt us sets us free. It keeps bitterness from taking root, bitterness that would defile us and everyone around us. When we cling to resentment, we unknowingly give our offender ongoing power over our hearts, which keeps us enslaved to our anger. **This prison we have created pulls us away from our Lord because we cannot hold on to bitterness and hold on to God.** Correspondingly, forgiving those who have wronged us releases the hold of bitterness on us. God, who has forgiven our enormous debt, gives us the power to forgive others. It is his power, not ours.” -Vaneetha Risner*