

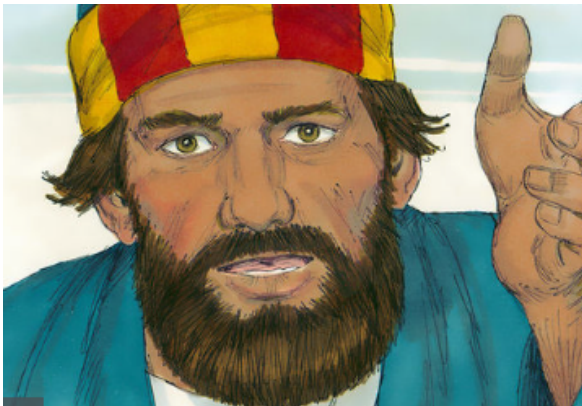
## The Unforgiving Servant - Matthew 18:21-35

One day Peter asked Jesus a question,

"If my friend does something to hurt me how many times do I have to forgive him... seven times?"

"Not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven."

*(some versions say seventy seven times, but what it really means is that we just have to keep on forgiving, more than we can count!)*



Then Jesus told this parable.

A certain King decided to collect the money his servants owed him. There was one servant who owed him a huge amount of money. So the king sent for him.

"You owe me a huge amount of money and I want you to pay it back.... NOW!" said the King,

"I'm sorry your Majesty but I simply don't have enough money to pay you" he replied.

"You don't have the money!" said the King. "In that case you, your wife and children and all your possessions will be sold to repay your debt."



Trembling, the servant fell on his knees and pleaded,

"Have patience, please ... give me more time and I will pay you everything I owe."

Then the king felt sorry for him. He thought for a while and then said,

"OK I will cancel your debt. You may go home."

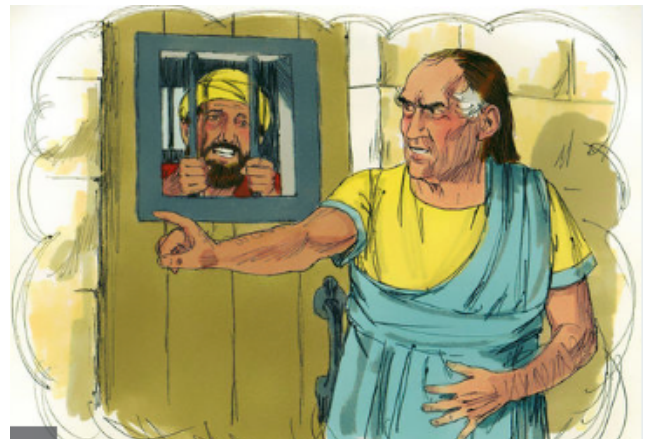
The man was overjoyed and set off home. However a little later he saw another servant who owed him some money. He became very angry thinking why hasn't he paid me my money. He owes me that money. And with that he grabbed the man round his neck,

"Pay me the money you owe me right now. I'm not waiting any longer." He shouted angrily.

The other servant fell on his knees and begged him,

"Be patient, I will pay you what I owe you as soon as I can. I just don't have the money at the moment."

"No!" shouted the man "If you can't pay you will go to prison," and he threw him in prison saying "You can stay there until you can pay me all that you owe."



The other servants saw what happened and they couldn't believe it. They were really sorry for the poor man and went off to tell their master what had happened.

Then the King sent for the first servant and said to him, "You begged me to forget what you owed me and I told you that you didn't have to pay anything. I forgave you. You should have forgiven the servant who owed you money."

Then he put the servant in prison until he could pay everything!



What do you think about that story? What do you think it means? What does it mean for us?



God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to die for us. Jesus paid the debt for our sins because he loves us so much. God loves us so much that He forgives us our sins when we say we are sorry and he wants us to forgive people who hurt us too.

**SO ... God loves us more than we can imagine and forgives us our sins.  
SO ... We should forgive other people too.**

## **Verse**

*"Do not be angry with each other, but forgive each other.  
If someone does wrong to you, then forgive him.  
Forgive each other because the Lord forgave you."*

*Colossians 3:13*

## Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you that you love us so much, even more than we can imagine.  
Thank you that you forgive us and you keep on forgiving us when we do wrong things and we say that we are sorry.  
Help us Lord to forgive other people again and again when they do things that upset us or hurt us.

Amen

## Links for The Unforgiving Servant

### Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7c976lrlek> - LifeKids (2½mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XvTk34qUMv4> - Hope Mission Kids (5mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5IbKfXZbZPw> - Explore God (2mins)

### Pictures

<https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/unforgiving-servant/>



# The Unforgiving Servant

Matthew 18:21-35

Can you find these words:-

forgive  
money  
servant  
patient  
prison  
sorry  
master  
angry  
debt  
pay  
king

q	w	s	e	a	n	g	r	y	k
s	f	o	r	g	i	v	e	k	i
r	e	r	u	o	j	d	s	b	n
c	d	r	n	m	o	n	e	y	g
x	e	y	v	v	y	m	o	u	e
n	b	b	f	a	s	a	j	r	n
t	t	d	o	i	n	s	g	c	t
p	a	t	i	e	n	t	p	n	b
b	e	p	l	a	x	e	b	a	z
p	r	i	s	o	n	r	i	a	y

*"Forgive other people and you will be forgiven." Luke 6:37*



What can you learn about forgiveness from this parable?

Look at Matthew 18:21-35

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# The Unforgiving Servant

Matthew 18:21-35





**The Unforgiving Servant**

# The Unforgiving Servant

Peter asked Jesus how many times we should forgive someone.

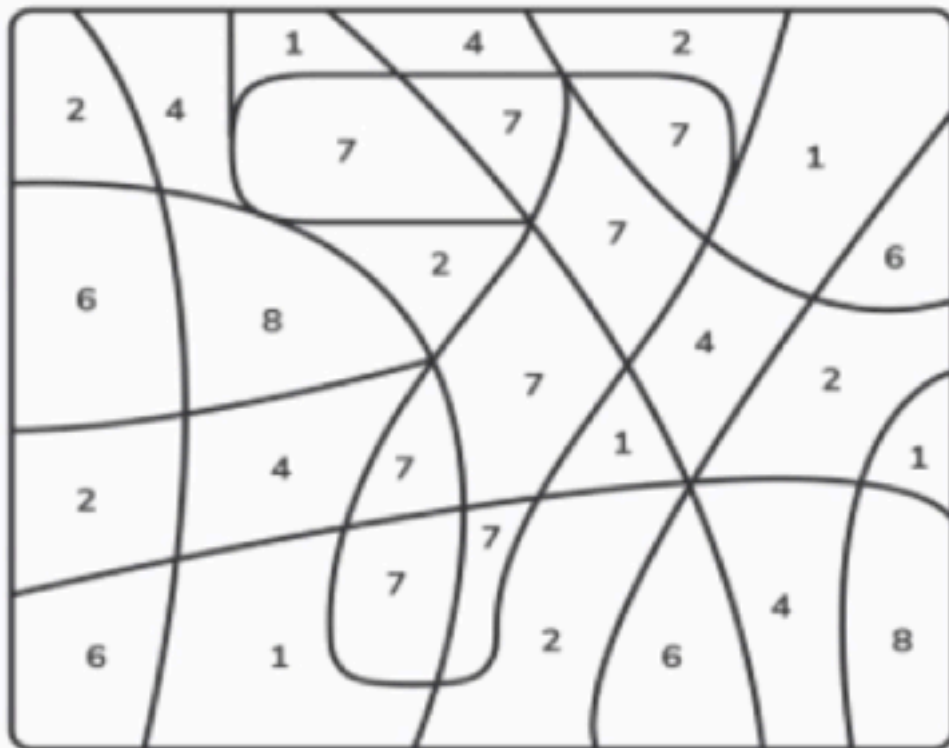
"Should I forgive them seven times? He said.

Jesus replied that we should forgive someone more than seven times, even seventy times seven times. In other words we should always forgive people.

Trace and colour the number seven.



Find and colour the number seven.





# The Unforgiving Servant



Read the parable of the two debtors told by Jesus in Matt 18:23-33.  
Then put the **green** words from the parable into the crossword puzzle.

One of the king's servants owed the king a great deal of money. However, he did not have the money to pay the **king**, so he asked the king to be **patient** and give him more time to repay the **debt**. The king felt bad for his servant and told him he did not have to repay the money. The entire debt was **forgiven**.

Once the **servant** left, he went looking for a worker who owed him a very small amount of money. The **worker** begged him to be patient. But the servant, who had just been forgiven by the king, had this man thrown in **jail**.

When the king heard how unkind his servant had been to the worker, he was angry. He told his servant, "Shame on you for treating your debtor this way, after all I did for you. Now you will go to jail, and you will pay me everything you owed me."

What good lessons we can learn from this **parable**. First, to treat others the way we would like to be treated, and second, to have a **loving** and forgiving heart.

