



CONVERSATIONS
WITH JESUS

PETER

Matthew 18:21-35

***“If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him.
And what I have forgiven- if there is anything
to forgive- I have forgiven in the sight of
Christ for your sake, in order that Satan
might not outwit us.***

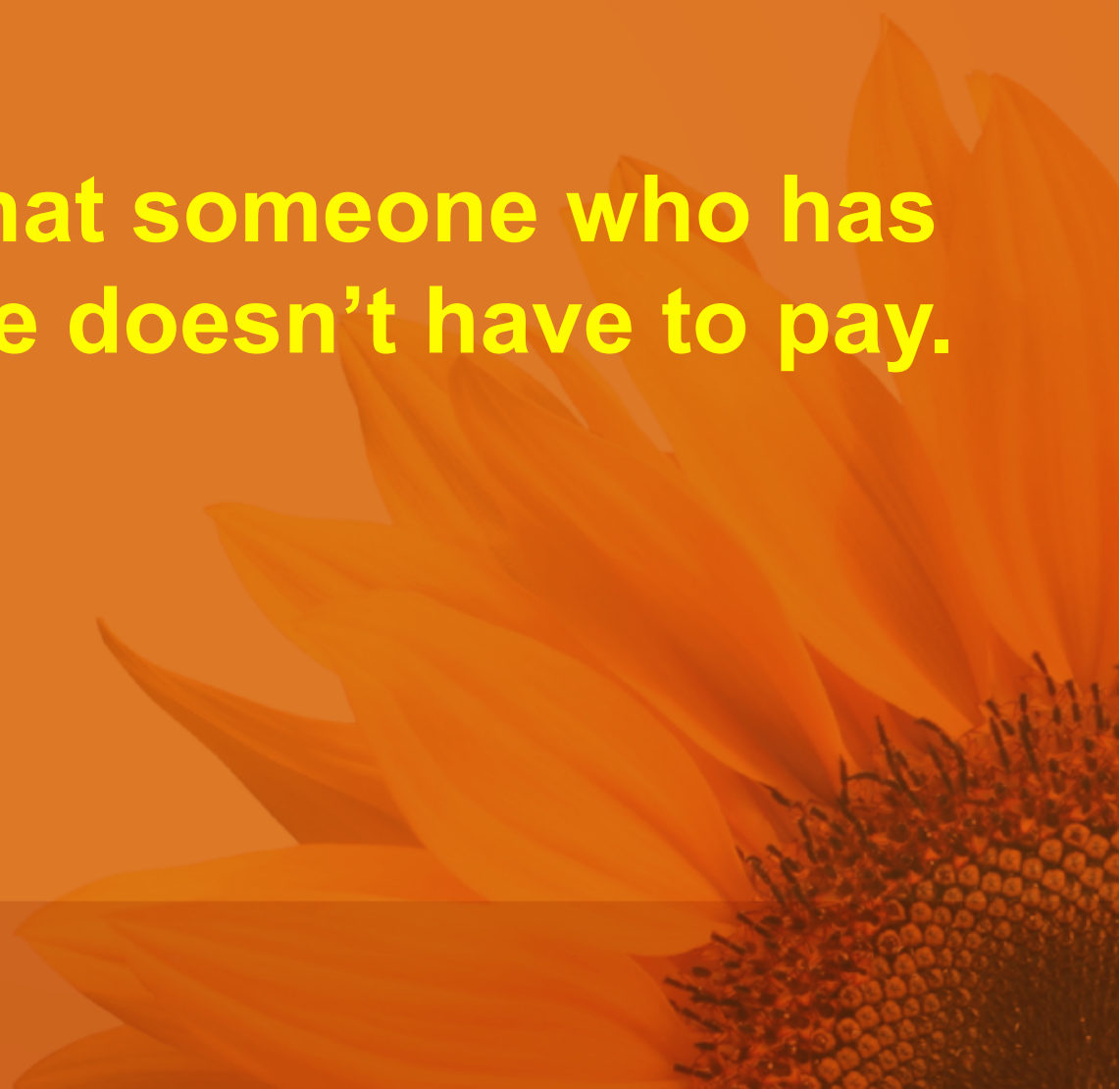
For we are not unaware of his schemes.

2 Cor. 2:10-11

“Forgiveness is...

Deciding that someone who has wronged me doesn't have to pay.

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**How long do I have put up with
some people before I can stop
forgiving them?**

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The Question We All Ask:

"Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

- Matthew 18:21-35

Jesus' Shocking Statement:

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times".

The Example of Forgiveness:

“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants”. - Matthew 18:23-35

“As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him”.

- Matthew 18:24

Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

- Matthew 18:25

The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.'

- Matthew 18:26

***The servant's master took pity on him,
canceled the debt and let him go.***

- Matthew 18:27

But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii.

- Matthew 18:28

He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

- Matthew 18:28

His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'

- Matthew 18:29

***But he refused. Instead, he went off
and had the man thrown into prison
until he could pay the debt.***

- Matthew 18:30

When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

- Matthew 18:31

Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?'

- Matthew 18:32-33

In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

- Matthew 18:34

Ways God allows a change of heart:

- Stress
- Hardships
- Pressure

**“He who cannot forgive others
breaks the bridge over which he
himself must pass.”**

- Lord Herbert

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"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

- Matthew 18:35

**“Peter: No matter how much
someone else owes you, you
owe God far, far more.”**

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**How do you respond to the
inevitable times when someone
sins against you?**

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3 Stages of Forgiveness:

1. Own Your Suffering

“God uses people’s pain- and their own immaturity, in some cases, to reshape us. There is no denying that many church-goers get wounded by insensitive or ignorant actions of others in the church. However, those instances are opportunities for us to love others who, like ourselves, are simply flawed sinners saved by grace. Fleeing from the source of the pain and suffering, rather than addressing and overcoming it, leaves us wounded and bitter, and does nothing to enhance our lives or those of the people responsible for that suffering.”

- Stephen Mansfield, *Re-Church*

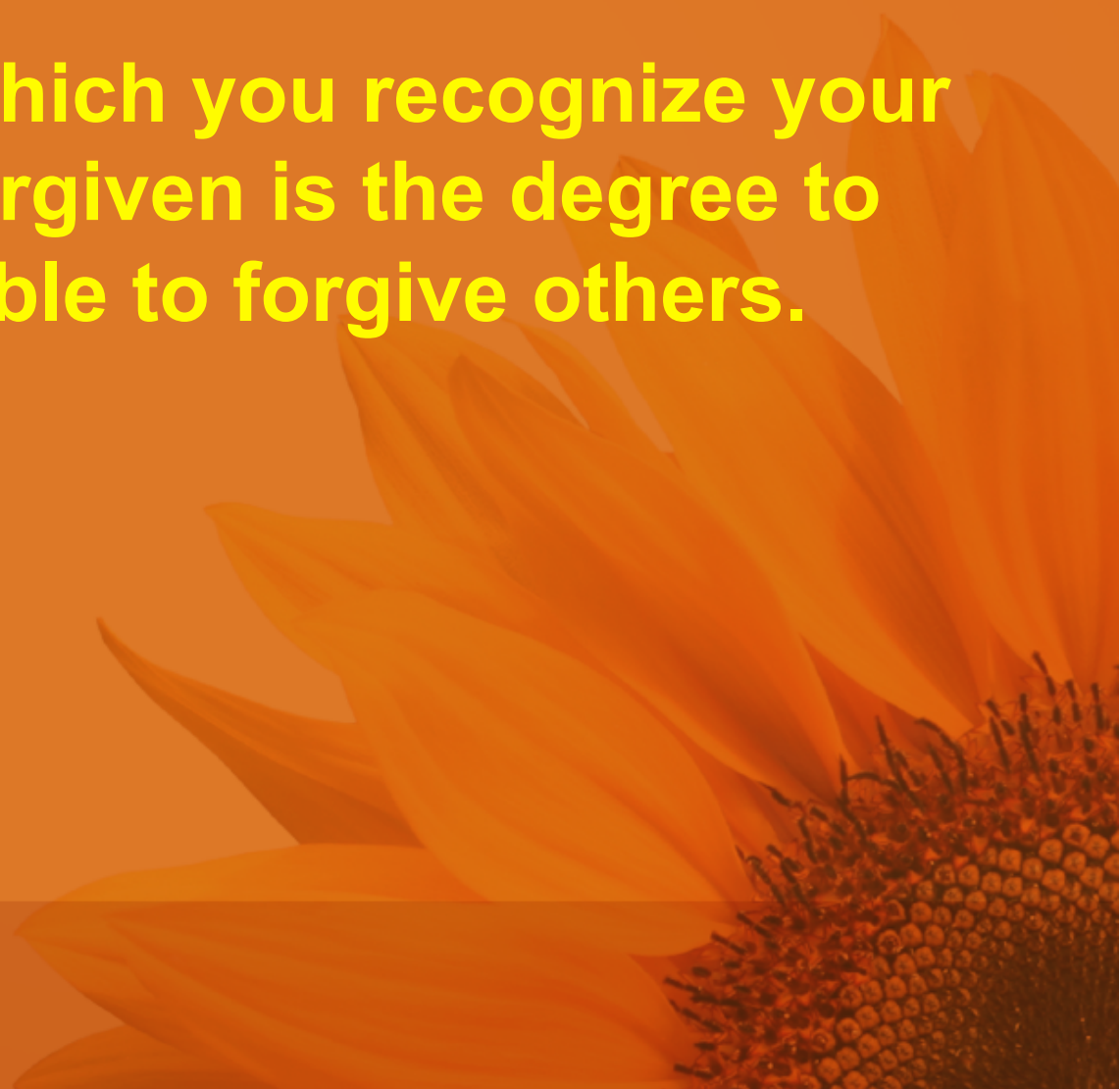
2. Perform Surgery

- Identify the people you are angry with
- Determine what they owe you
- Decide to cancel the debt



3. Begin Starting Over

The degree to which you recognize your level of being forgiven is the degree to which you are able to forgive others.



“Each un-forgiven injury rankling in the heart is like a leech sucking the life-blood. Mere human determination to have done with it will not cast evil things away. You must bathe your whole being in God’s pardoning mercy; and those venomous creatures will instantly let go of their hold.” - William Arnot