THE GREATEST STORYTELLER
Exploring the Life-Changing Stories of Jesus
Lesson #4 – Forgive Like Jesus

TEXT: Matthew 18:21-35

In our parable today Jesus tells a story to help us understand just how important forgiveness is for His followers. (READ Matthew 18:21) Why do you think Peter asked Jesus this question?

What was Jesus' response to Peter? (READ Matthew 18:22)

I. WE ARE C_____ TO FORGIVE OTHERS.

(READ Matthew 6:14-15) What does Jesus say will occur if we forgive others? What will happen if we don't forgive others?

Jesus then proceeds to share this insightful parable, in order to dramatically illustrate his point. (READ Matthew 18:23-25)

This servant owed the king about _____ million dollars! What offer did the king make for repayment?

How did the servant respond? (READ Matthew 18:26-27) So what did the king do?

We could never R_____ the enormous D_____ that we owe God for our S_____. The more we understand the debt that G_____ has forgiven us, the more eager we will be to forgive other P_____. (READ Colossians 3:13)

(READ Matthew 18:28-30) The amount this fellow servant owed was the equivalent of a _____ thousand dollars.

II. AN UNFORGIVING SPIRIT IS EXTREMELY D_____.

Then Jesus concluded His story. (READ Matthew 18:31-34) What then was the point of Jesus' parable? (READ Matthew 18:35)

So what must we do, in order to be forgiven? (READ Mark 11:25)

III. THE R_____ OF A FORGIVING SPIRIT

    A. A Forgiving Spirit Requires T_____ in God's Justice.

    (READ Romans 12:19-20) Be patient and trust God, that He will bring about justice in the end.

    B. A Forgiving Spirit Relinquishes our Right to R_____.

    Jesus looked down from the cross upon those who were crucifying Him and He prayed, *"Father, f_____ them, for they don't know what they are d_____."* (Luke 23:33-34)

    C. A Forgiving Spirit Restores our R_____ with Others.

    Jesus reconciled us back to God. Now He has given us the M_____ of reconciling people back to a right R_____ with God and with His people. (READ 2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

IV. HOW THEN SHOULD WE FORGIVE LIKE JESUS?

    A. R_____ your Bitterness and Submit to God
       (READ Ephesians 4:31)

    B. R_____ How Much the Lord has Forgiven You.
       (READ Ephesians 4:32)

    C. R_____ O_____ with Love and Kindness to Those who have
       Hurt You. (READ 2 Corinthians 1:3-4)