



## For Giving Grace

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*Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven!"* Matthew 18:21–22 (NLT)

**Today's Core Truth: A grace-filled life keeps no count.**

Matthew 18:23–30 (NLT)

**Why We Struggle with "For Giving" Grace:**

⇒ **We don't know how good we've \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Romans 6:23 (NIV)

*For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ... 1 Peter 1:18-19a (NIV)*

*Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little.* Luke 7:47 (NIV)

⇒ **We haven't allowed the depth of God's grace to \_\_\_\_\_ us.**

*...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.* 2 Peter 3:18a (NIV)

⇒ **We haven't realized the implications of not \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

Matthew 18:31–35 (NLT)



*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)*

**NEXTsteps** : I will forgive \_\_\_\_\_ so I can be free.

ANSWER KEY: got, change, giving



### Study & Discussion for Your Next Small Group

**Theme:** Forgive as Forgiven

**Share Together:** When was there a time you made a mistake and someone offered grace to you? How have you offered the same to others?

**Reflect together:** What impacted you the most from Sunday's message?

**Read Together:** Matthew 18:21-35

**Discuss Together:**

- The Jewish principle was to forgive someone up to 3 times, but not to go beyond that. Why was Peter proud of his statement, and how does Jesus' response in verse 22 lead into the parable?
- If this story represents God's kingdom, it implies that Jesus believed people owe a great debt to God that he is willing to forgive. What debt would people owe to God that would need forgiveness?
- Based on what you learned from this story, would you say God's forgiveness of us is limited or unlimited? Conditional or unconditional?
- How about our forgiveness of others?
- Why do you think Jesus wants us to forgive others for the wrongs they have done to us?
- What are the alternatives practiced by people who do not forgive?
- What effects does not practicing forgiveness have on our lives?
- What are some practical examples of situations in modern life where we can put forgiveness into practice?
- How does the depth of knowing what Christ did for us to experience forgiveness help you in offering forgiveness?
- How do you struggle with forgiveness and need prayer?

**Pray Together:** Take time to share how God has answered prayer and any prayer requests that you have today.