



# Journey in Discipleship

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Year One: What Do We Believe??

Year Two: What Do We Do??

How do we practically live out what we believe?

How do you follow Jesus?

Key Word: Disciple

How do you meet Jesus personally?

Key Word: Meditation

How do you meet Jesus with others?

Key Word: Worship

How do you relate to other Christians? Key Word: Member

How do you relate to those who hurt you? Key Word:

Forgiveness



# How Do You Relate to Those Who Hurt Your ?

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## 2 Striking Stories within the Story

- 10,000 talents and the Forgiving King (18:23–27)
  - The average worker earned 1 talent/3 years
  - 10,000 talents = 30,000 years of typical earnings
- 100 denari and the Unforgiving Servant (18:28–30)
  - 100 denari = 3 months wages for the average worker

To be lavishly forgiven is to begin a lifestyle of habitual, intentional forgiveness (18:35)

OR Forgiveness with No Boundaries (18:21–22)



# How Do You Relate to Those Who Hurt

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- Why do you need a forgiving spirit?? (18:34)
- What is a forgiving spirit?? (18:27–33)
- How do you get a forgiving spirit?? (18:28–30)



# Why Do You Need a Forgiving Spirit??

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*“In his anger the king turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back what he owed.” (18:34)*

If you don't learn to habitually, intentionally forgive...to stop anger from passing deep within you...it's going to torment & imprison you

OR

If you have wrath, and you don't intentionally forgive, it will change you into a “wraith”...a restless spirit, controlled by your past, twisting your soul with an unforgiving spirit

BEWARE...

You may not recognize this unforgiving, tormenting spirit because it can hide like a root, out of sight, buried by your self-justification

(Hebrews 12:15)



# What Is a Forgiving Spirit??

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Identifying with the Wrongdoer (18:27)

“the master took pity on him”

Took pity ...to transformingly put yourself in another's shoes & to identify with their misery/pain

Whenever someone wrongs you, your heart is going to focus on & exaggerate the differences between you and that person

But Jesus says that you're basically the same & if you let yourself focus on & exaggerate the differences then you will be twisted

“Forgiveness flounders because I exclude the enemy from the community of humans and I exclude myself from the community of sinners.” Miraslov Volf



# What Is a Forgiving Spirit??

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## Identify with the Wrongdoer

When you think of someone who has wronged you, you need to make an intentional effort to identify with them... to see your similarities with them

## Intentionally Pay the Debt of the Wrongdoer

“the master canceled (paid) the debt” (18:27)

When someone hurts you, they have created a debt of emotional pain & you feel that that person owes you

If you try to pay down the debt by making them pay...it will twist you, anger will take root in your soul, you are turning into a restless, joyless wraith



# What Is a Forgiving Spirit??

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## Intentionally Pay the Debt of the Wrongdoer

There are only 2 things you can do with that debt of emotional pain

1. You can make them pay...but it will twist you
2. You can pay down the debt like the king...it will free you

It's painful to make payments to pay down another's debt, but slowly the anger will drain out of you and you won't be twisted on the inside, but instead will be free



# What Is a Forgiving Spirit??

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- Identify with the wrongdoer
- Intentionally pay the debt of the wrongdoer
- Then you will be free to seek good for the wrongdoer (18:32–33)

Can forgiveness want justice?? Absolutely

But an unforgiving spirit will not want justice....rather vengeance

## **Don't get confused**

Neither vengeance nor resignation/placation are marks of a forgiving spirit

The freedom of a forgiving spirit = it doesn't pursue vengeance, but it doesn't avoid conflict for the good of another/a relationship



# How Do You Get a Forgiving Spirit??

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What should this unforgiving servant have been doing??

Putting the little story of the small debt owed him into the big story of the king's lavish forgiveness of a totally unpayable debt

And what about you?

Behold the King who became a servant and paid your unpayable debt at the cross  
...put the little story of the debts others owe you into His story of lavish forgiveness

