

THE STORIES of JESUS

Explosions of Truth

April 14, 2024

THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

Extended Edition

Matthew 18:23-35

*Forgiveness, and the need for it,
is the epicenter of events in life and eternity.*

I. EVENTS *Something has happened*

a. **OFFENSE: A DEFINITION:**

A debt has been created that **MUST** be paid.

b. **OFFENSE: A PERSPECTIVE:**

A debt has been created that **CANNOT** be paid.

II. EPICENTER *Something must happen*

a. **PERFORMANCE** Mt. 15:1-20

b. **COMPASSION** Mt. 18:27

III. FORGIVENESS *The unexpected happens*

a. The **UNPAYABLE PRICE** paid.

b. The **PROCESS** taken.

The chair exercise.

FORGIVENESS IS . . .

- A punishment pardoned.
- A debt canceled.
- A relationship restored.

Forgiveness is granted as a favor to the offender
by the one who has been offended.

Forgiveness is never earned
and cannot be demanded.

Forgiveness takes place in the heart of the one
who has been offended first
as they respond to God in prayer.

How forgiveness is applied in the life of the offender
is dependent upon their response.

**God's goal in the forgiveness process for all involved
is to shape our hearts to become like His.**

Romans 5:8 Romans 15:7 Ephesians 4:30-32 Colossians 3:12-14