

THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

Matthew 18:21-35

Matthew 18

²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²²Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Since 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.

²⁶“The servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began

to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

²⁹“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.’

³⁰“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³²“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.

³³Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.”

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) How many times did Jesus tell Peter that he should forgive someone?
5		2.) What did the king do about the servant who could not pay what he owed? (Verse 27)
5		3.) What did the forgiven servant the do to the servant that owed <i>him</i> money? (Verse 28)
5		4.) Why do you think the king was so upset with the first servant?

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		“For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.” Matthew 6:14

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

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The master is upset with his servant for not forgiving someone else

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CRAFT/ACTIVITY: PUZZLES

Students will make puzzles to remind them that the servant who was forgiven of his debt chose not to extend forgiveness to others.

MATERIALS

1. 67 Lb. White Cardstock
2. Puzzle Pattern
3. Scissors
4. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
5. Plastic Bags or Paper Clips



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the puzzle pattern for each student onto 67 lb cardstock.
2. Have students color the puzzle with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
3. Instruct students to cut the puzzle into pieces on the solid black lines.
4. Once students have cut their puzzles into pieces, have them race to put them back together.
5. Put all pieces of the puzzle into a plastic bag or clip pieces together with a paper clip when finished.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are coloring and cutting their puzzles into pieces, remind them that forgiveness is not a one way street. God forgave us of our sins through Jesus. Since he forgave us of our sin, we need to do likewise for others.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 15 minutes

MEMORY VERSE

“For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.” Matthew 6:14

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Matthew 18:21-35



The unmerciful servant had a man thrown in jail because he owed him money

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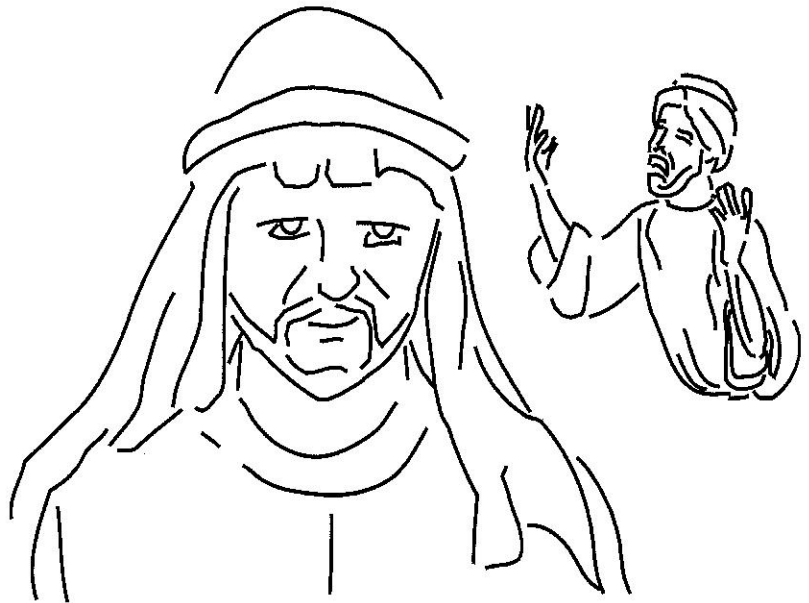
Matthew 18:21-35

Do the multiplication problems in the box to find out the code numbers for each letter.

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The parable of the unmerciful servant shows us how we should *not* treat others. But how does Jesus say we should treat others when they sin against us?

A	Three fours = ____
B	Seven sixes = ____
E	Nine nines = ____
F	Eight fours = ____
G	Five sevens = ____
H	Five threes = ____
I	Six fives = ____
M	Seven nines = ____
O	Four fours = ____
R	Eight nines = ____
T	Seven sevens = ____
U	Four sixes = ____
V	Nine fives = ____
Y	Five fours = ____



32 16 72 35 30 45 81

20 16 24 72

42 72 16 49 15 81 72

32 72 16 63

20 16 24 72

15 81 12 72 49

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON MATTHEW 18:21-35

THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT



Peter asked Jesus how many times he should forgive someone who sins against him. Peter asked, “Up to seven times?”

Jesus replied, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-

seven times.”

Then Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven is like a king who tried to collect what was owed to him. He went to the first man who owed him 10,000 talents. The man asked the king to be patient and the king canceled his debt.”

This same man went out and found a man who owed him money. He grabbed the man and began to choke him. “Pay back what you owe me!” he demanded. The man begged for him to be patient, but the unmerciful servant had him thrown into prison.

The king found out what had happened and said, “I cancelled your debt and had mercy on you. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant?” Then the king threw the unmerciful servant into jail until he paid his debts.

Jesus was encouraging his listeners to forgive others just like he forgives you.

For more details, please read Matthew 18:21-35 in the Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. How many times did Jesus tell Peter that he should forgive someone?
2. What did the king do about the servant who could not pay what he owed?
3. What did the forgiven servant do to the servant that owed *him* money?
4. Why do you think the king was so upset with the first servant?

MEMORY VERSE

“For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.” Matthew 6:14

HELP THE KING FIND HIS SERVANT

