

# BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

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## CONVERSATION

### Jesus Taught About Forgiveness

#### MATTHEW 18:21-35

Peter came to Jesus one day and asked Him a question: “If my brother sins against me, how many times should I forgive him? Seven times?”

Jesus answered that seven times would not be enough. Jesus said, “Seventy times seven.”

Jesus told a story to explain. He said there was a king who wanted to collect money from his servants who owed him money. There was one servant who owed the king 10,000 talents. The servant had no way to pay the king back that much money, so the king demanded that the servant, his family, and everything he owned to be sold and the money given to the king.

The servant fell to his knees and begged the king to be patient. The servant promised he would pay the king everything he owed him if the king would just give him more time. The king felt sorry for the servant and set him free. The king also forgave the servant’s debt and said he did not have to pay back any of the money he owed.

When the servant left the king, he found a fellow servant who owed him 100 denarii. The first servant grabbed the man, started choking him, and said, “Pay what you owe!” The fellow servant fell to his knees and begged for patience. He promised he would pay back all he owed.

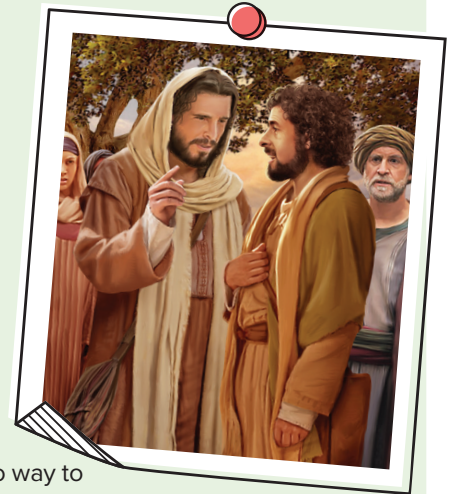
But the first servant would not forgive the man. He wanted his money. He threw the man in prison until he could pay the entire amount.

When the king heard about this, he called for the first servant to be brought back to him. The king said the servant was evil. The king had forgiven the servant the huge amount of money he owed, but then the forgiven servant did not show any kindness or forgiveness to his fellow servant.

The king sent the first servant to jail until he could pay everything that was owed. Jesus told Peter everyone should forgive and really mean it.

**WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE:** Ephesians 4:32

**LIFE POINT:** Jesus taught that believers should forgive others as God forgives them.



#### THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, today’s Bible story helped your child learn that Jesus taught believers to forgive others as God forgives them. Even though forgiveness is sometimes difficult, believers can depend on God to help them forgive.

#### LIVE IT OUT

Remind your child that she should forgive because God forgives her. Help her memorize Ephesians 4:32. Challenge her to recite the verse if she is in a situation requiring her to forgive.

#### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

People can obey Jesus as a response to His love.

#### DAILY BIBLE READING

**Sunday:** Ephesians 4:32

**Monday:** 1 Thessalonians 5:15

**Tuesday:** Mark 4:24

**Wednesday:** Colossians 3:13

**Thursday:** Mark 11:25

**Friday:** Proverbs 20:22

**Saturday:** Matthew 6:14

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** Check out the *Jesus Taught About Forgiveness* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.