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# LIFE IN THE KINGDOM

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The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 6:12 "Forgive Us Our Debts"



“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,

Matthew  
5:43-48



What is our debt to God?



Micah  
6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?



Matthew  
23:23

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.



How do I repay my debt?



Why?

Debts put strain on relationships



# Our solution?





Two ways to relieve the strain:

1. Repay the debt



Two ways to relieve the strain:

1. Repay the debt
2. Cancel the debt



Matthew  
18:21-27

21 Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his



Matthew  
18:21-27

24 When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'



Matthew  
18:21-27

27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.



God's utter commitment to  
reconciling our relationship  
through His generous  
forgiveness



Sam  
Storms

“But true forgiveness pursues relationship and restoration. True forgiveness is not satisfied with simply canceling the debt. It longs to love again.”



Sam  
Storms

“So what is forgiveness? It is deciding to live with the painful consequences of another person’s sin.”





But, Mama, but, Mama, what if I were an alligator  
with big, sharp teeth that could bite your head off?





But, Mama, but, Mama, what if I were a super  
smelly skunk, and I smelled so bad that my name was

Stinky  
Face?





Matthew  
18:28-35

28 But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the



Matthew  
18:28-35

31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. 32 Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.



Matthew  
18:28-35

33 And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. 35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."



God's forgiveness is not meant  
to be transactional,  
but transformational.



Luke  
7:41-48

41 "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly."



Luke  
7:41-48

44 Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet.



Luke  
7:41-48

46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.” 48 And he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”