

# The Book of Ephesians

## Fact of sinfulness

We sin against God

Romans 3:23 “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

Others sin against us

Matthew 18: 21 Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”

We sin against others

1 Corinthians 8:12 And thus, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

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## **Fact of forgiveness**

Forgive others when they sin against you

- Mark 11:25

Seek forgiveness from others when you sin against them

- Matthew 5:23-26

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## **Foundation of forgiveness (Matthew 18:23-27)**

The foundation of forgiveness is understanding how much you have been forgiven

How does God forgive us?

- Proactively
- Relieves the guilt of sin
- Not in proportion to our sorrow

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## **Folly of un-forgiveness (Matthew 18:28-30)**

- Ungrateful – “went out”
- Vengeful – “found”
- Arrogant – “fellow slave”
- Unmerciful – “100 denari”
- Unloving – “choked and seized”
- Uncompassionate – “threw in prison”

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## **Fear of un-forgiveness (Matthew 18:31-35)**

- v 32-35 – Eternal consequences of un-forgiveness

The unforgiving spouse can do more damage to the marriage than the original sin

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## **Fruit of forgiveness**

Forgiveness is a painful joy (Isaiah 53:3-10)

Forgiveness is the hope of reconciliation (Hosea 2:14-15)

Forgiveness prevents sin from destroying the relationship

- Psalm 103:12
- 1 Corinthians 13:5, 7