

# The Trap

Part 3: The Prison of Unforgiveness

Matthew 18:21-35

## Launch

What's worse: 99 degrees with 90% humidity or 0 degrees with 30 MPH wind?

## Explore

### Read the passage

Why do you think Peter asked Jesus about forgiveness? What kind of an answer might he have been hoping for?

What stands out about this parable? What's hard to understand/confusing?

What does this parable say about the values in God's kingdom?

## Apply

*Quotes on forgiveness:*

"Everyone thinks forgiveness is a lovely idea until he has something to forgive." C.S. Lewis

"Not forgiving is like drinking rat poison and then waiting for the rat to die." Anne Lamott

"To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you." Lewis B. Smedes

Which of these quotes is your favorite? Why? How does it apply to your life?

Why does God expect us to forgive others? Why are there no exceptions?

Why is it important to differentiate between forgiveness and trust?

How have you struggled to forgive someone? Why was it hard? How is your relationship now?

## Pray

If anyone is struggling with unforgiveness, take some time to pray with and for that person, asking the Holy Spirit to bring healing and peace.