

“FORGIVENESS: IT ALL BEGINS WITH GOD”
(Forgiveness – Lesson One)
(Matthew 18:21-35)

Introduction: Jesus used a parable to teach about “forgiveness”!

I. GOD WILL FORGIVE ALL SINS

**Matthew 18:23 *Matthew 18:26 *Matthew 18:27 *I John 1:9*
**I John 1:7b *Colossians 2:13-14 *Proverbs 28:13*

Note: God forgives as often as we ask, but we must ask to be forgiven.

II. GOD EXPECTS US TO FORGIVE OTHERS OF ALL OFFENCES

** Matthew 18:28-30 *Ephesians 4:31-32 *Matthew 18:21-22 *Mark 11:25-26*
**Luke 17:3-5 *Matthew 18:15 *Luke 23:34 *I John 4:19*
**Romans 5:8*

Note: Our forgiving others demonstrates God’s forgiving us.

III. GOD PUTS THE UNFORGIVING INTO A SPIRITUAL PRISON

**Matthew 18:31-35 *Matthew 18:7 *Matthew 5:23-25 *Hebrews 12:14-15*
**I John 3:8b *John 8:32*

Note: People who will not forgive live in “torment”.

Conclusion: Not forgiving yourself produces guilt. Not forgiving others produces bitterness.