

SERMON GUIDE

I JUST CAN'T FORGIVE (MYSELF OR OTHERS)

Matthew 18:15-35 | Pastor Tim Porter

May 15, 2022

Faith Community Church | fchudson.com

Conversation Questions

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- S**cripture that stands out to you while you read
- O**bservations you are making about a passage
- A**pplications that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- P**rayers that invite God to participate in all that you do

Getting to know me: Have you ever been forgiven a financial debt? What was it for and how does the story go?

Note about the passage:

Matthew chapter 18 begins with followers of Jesus asking him "who is the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven?" As part of his answer, Jesus tells them to be child-like in order to even enter the kingdom of Heaven. Jesus goes on to talk about forgiveness in this passage.

Read Matthew 18:15-35

- S** What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything "illuminated" or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** What do you notice about this text? What do you find interesting? What do you wonder? What questions do you have about the people, events, or God?
- O** Why do you think the king had 'pity'? v.27 (note: the word 'pity' is the greek word *spianchnistheis* meaning *compassion, moved in the inward parts*). How did he express that pity?
- O** Why do you think the fellow servants were in distress when they saw what had taken place in this parable? (v. 31) Who do you think could see the situation more clearly: the fellow servants or the 'wicked' servant? Why?
- O** Does the king's application of the word 'wicked' (v. 32) match your understanding of the word wicked?
- A** Are there unforgiven people in your life? (v. 21, 35)
- A** Is there anyone in your life you could ask to give feedback on your heart position towards another person or group of people in your life? ("fellow servant" people).
- P** Talk to God about your application responses. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction as needed.