

Forgiven People Forgive People

Luke 17:1-10

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / March 19, 2023

Luke 17:1-10 “And He said to His disciples, ‘Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, “I repent,” you must forgive him.’ ⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’ ⁶ And the Lord said, ‘If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, “Be uprooted and planted in the sea,” and it would obey you. ⁷ Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, “Come at once and recline at table”? ⁸ Will he not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink”? ⁹ Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, “We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.””

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord.

Response: **Thanks Be To God!**

I. Sin & temptation are inevitable, but that doesn’t mean you should take them lightly!

Luke 17:1-2 “And He said to His disciples, ‘Temptations to sin are sure to come, **but woe to the one through whom they come!** ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin.”

Luke 22:22 “For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, **but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!**”

Romans 14:13 “Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide **never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.**”

1 Corinthians 8:12 “Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.”

II. Sin & temptation are inevitable, which makes forgiveness all the more necessary!

Luke 17:3-4 “Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

9 Results of Failing to Forgive

- (1) You won't relate to others in a reasonable way. (Matt. 18:23-35)
- (2) You won't enjoy the love of other Christians. (Matt. 18:31)
- (3) You'll receive chastening from God Himself. (Matt. 18:34-35)
- (4) You'll forget that whoever offended you offended God more. (Psa. 51:4)
- (5) You'll fail to be forgiven by God. (Matt. 6:14-15)
- (6) You'll be unfit for worship. (Matt. 5:23-24)
- (7) You'll be tempted to usurp God's authority. (Rom. 12:19)
- (8) You'll miss out on being perfected by trials. (James 1:2-4)
- (9) You'll miss out on doing the most God-like thing you can ever do. (Isa. 43:25; Jer. 31:34; Mic. 7:18-19)

III. Forgiving others is not easy, but you can do it with God's help!

Luke 17:5-6 "The apostles said to the Lord, '**Increase our faith!**' ⁶And the Lord said, 'If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea" and it would obey you.'"

Colossians 3:10 "...and have put on the new self, **which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.**"

*Don't underestimate what God can do in you
and through you as you grow in your faith!*

IV. Forgiven people forgive people. It's normative for those who know & love Jesus!

Luke 17:10 "So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; **we have only done what was our duty.**'"

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, **as God in Christ forgave you.**"

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. Read Luke 17:1-2. Why do you think Jesus uses such graphic language in warning us against causing someone to sin?
2. When have you been forgiven much by someone else?
3. Who would describe you as a forgiving person? Why?
4. Read through the "9 Results of Failing to Forgive." Which of them stand out to you? Why?
5. Read Eph. 4:32. What is the correlation between you having been forgiven by God and His call on your life to forgive others?