

“FORGIVENESS FROM THE HEART”

Matthew 18:21-35

"Pardon is an inherent characteristic of the Christian community. To pardon means not to fixate on the past but to create possibilities for persons to change and to realign the course of their lives. **Pardon forges Christian community.**" — Gustavo Gutierrez

The Measure of Forgiveness ... vss. 21-22

- ***Forgiveness has no Boundary ...***
- ***Forgiveness has no History ... (1 Cor. 13:5)***

The Method of Forgiveness ... vss. 23-31

- ***Fully Rescinds the Debt ...***
- ***Fully Releases the Debtor ... (Acts 7:60)***

The Motive of Forgiveness ... vss. 32-35

- ***Freely we have Received ... (Eph. 4:32)***
- ***Freely we are to Give ... (Matt, 10:8)***

THE BEATITUDE ATTITUDE

"Blessed are the Merciful, for they will be shown mercy" – Matthew 5:7

Have you been CUNNING? Has your Father forgiven you?

Have you been CALCULATED? Has your Father forgiven you?

Have you been CALLOUS? Has your Father forgiven you?

"When forgiveness is necessary, don't wait too long. We must begin to forgive, because without forgiving, **we choke off our own joy**; we kill our own soul. People carrying hate and resentment can invest themselves so deeply in that resentment that **they gradually define themselves** in terms of it."

— Lewis B. Smedes