



## **FORGIVENESS**

WEEK 2 | DAY 12

### **READ MATTHEW 18:21-35**

*Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”*

Just as God has forgiven us, we are expected to do the same for others. Take a moment to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the names or faces of people that you need to forgive.

### **PRAY THIS WITH US:**

“God, thank you for the forgiveness you have so graciously given me. Help me to follow you and forgive those that have hurt me. Today, I resist the temptation to live with unforgiveness. In faith, I choose to forgive [name the people He brought to mind] just as you have forgiven me. I lay down all hatred, bitterness, and anger that I have harbored in my heart. Instead, I ask You to fill my heart with love, joy, peace, and contentment. Amen.”

**HEAR FROM MARTHA**