WORLD OUTREACH CHURCH

SERMON DATE
August 11, 2024

A Change of Heart
Forgiveness & Resentment

I. Instructions from Jesus

Matthew 6:9–15 (NIV®)

9 "This, then, is how you should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread.
12 **Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors**.
13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'
14 **For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.**
15 **But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.**

II. Transformational Faith, Not Transactional Faith

2 Corinthians 3:17–18 (NIV®)

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, **are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory**, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

III. Your Choice to Forgive, Is about You!

Luke 23:34 (NIV®)

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

A. Forgiveness is Not Optional!

Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV®)

14 For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

B. No Statute of Limitations!

Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV®)

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" 22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

C. Forgiveness Can Be Achieved Quickly!

Mark 11:25 (NIV®)

"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

IV. Sin & Consequences

John 19:10–11 (NIV®)

10 "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" 11 Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore **the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin**."

Matthew 26:23–25 (NIV®)

23 Jesus replied, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 24 The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But **woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.**" 25 Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" Jesus answered, "Yes, it is you."

2 Corinthians 11:4 (NIV®)
For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive **a** different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, **you put up with it easily enough**.

Habakkuk 1:13 (NIV®)
Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong. **Why then do you tolerate the treacherous?** Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?

Revelation 2:20 (NIV®)
Nevertheless, I have this against you: **You tolerate that woman Jezebel**, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.

Same Scene Recorded in Two Gospels

Matthew 3:7–9 (NIV®)
7 But when he saw many of the **Pharisees and Sadducees** coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. 9 And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham."

Luke 3:7–14 (NIV®)
7 **John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him**, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. 9 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." 10 "What should we do then?" **the crowd asked**. 11 John answered, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same." 12 **Tax collectors** also came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?" 13 "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. 14 Then some **soldiers asked him**, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay."

Matthew 21:28–32 (NIV®)
28 "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' 29 " 'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. 30 "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. 31 "Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "**I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.** 32 For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him."

OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SHARE THE TRUTH WE KNOW . . . NOT JUST EVANGELISM

Ezekiel 33:8–9 (NIV®)
8 When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade him from his ways, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. 9 But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his ways and he does not do so, he will die for his sin, but you will have saved yourself.

Prayer

Acts 4:29–31 (NIV®)
29 **"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.** 30 **Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."** 31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

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