

## A STORY ABOUT FORGIVENESS

(Matthew 18:21-35)

### I. The Utility of the Story

- A. A Parable is a teaching tool involving a \_\_\_\_\_ story cast alongside an \_\_\_\_\_ concept.
- B. According to Jesus, the purpose of a parable is to.....(Matthew 13:10-15)
1. \_\_\_\_\_ truth to the seeking
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ truth from the disbelieving
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ prophesy (Isaiah 6:9)

### II. The Occasion of the Story

- A. Jesus is instructing his disciples about how to manage conflict in the yet future \_\_\_\_\_ and highlighting the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ among the \_\_\_\_\_. (vv.15-17)
- B. Peter, thinking to impress, asks Jesus how many times he is required to \_\_\_\_\_ his brother, even up to \_\_\_\_\_ times? (v. 21)
- C. In His response, Christ \_\_\_\_\_ Peter's boast by \_\_\_\_\_ and illustrates with a \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 22)

### III. The Characters in the Story

- A. The King who is settling accounts represents \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 23)
- B. The servant who owed 10,000 Talents represents Peter and all \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 24)
- C. The fellow servant who owed 100 Denarii represents other \_\_\_\_\_ who have caused offense. (v. 28)

### IV. The First Encounter in the Story (vv. 24-27)

- A. The Debt: An \_\_\_\_\_ was owed by the servant to the King, so that he and his entire family was to be sold into \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 24 - 25)
- B. The Plea: In spite of the \_\_\_\_\_ of repayment , the servant pleads for \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 26)

- C. The Response: The King has \_\_\_\_\_ on his servant and forgives the entire debt. (v. 27)

#### V. The Second Encounter in the Story (vv. 28-30)

- A. The debt: The forgiven servant demands \_\_\_\_\_ from a fellow servant who owes him a lesser amount.
- B. The Plea: In \_\_\_\_\_ to the first servant's plea, the fellow servant pleads for patience. (v. 29)
- C. The Response: The servant has no \_\_\_\_\_ for his fellow servant, and threw him in \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 30)

#### VI. The Resolution of the Story (vv. 31-34)

- A. Word of the servant's unforgiving attitude reaches the King.
1. The King cites the forgiveness He has shown as \_\_\_\_\_ for the first servant to forgive his fellow servant.
  2. The King becomes \_\_\_\_\_ with his servant.
  3. Because of the servant's \_\_\_\_\_ attitude, the King delivered the servant to \_\_\_\_\_ until his debt was paid.

#### VII. The Application of the Story (v. 35)

- A. God the Father will not \_\_\_\_\_ a believer if the believer is not \_\_\_\_\_ to forgive his brother.
1. This **does not** teach that a believer can \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_ due to an unforgiving spirit!
  2. This **does not** teach that a believer with an unforgiving attitude was \_\_\_\_\_ to begin with!
  3. This does teach that a believer who is unforgiving to his brother should not expect \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness from God, or to enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ with God!

#### VIII. What does this story mean for you?