



I. INTRO

- A. Peter had a question

Matthew 18:21 (TPT) “How many times do I have to forgive my fellow believer who keeps offending me? Seven times?”

- How many times do I “have to” forgive?

II. JESUS TEACHES ABOUT FORGIVENESS

Matthew 18:15-17 (TPT) ¹⁵“If your fellow believer sins against you, you must go to that one privately and attempt to resolve the matter. If he responds, your relationship is restored. ¹⁶But if his heart is closed to you, then go to him again, taking one or two others with you. You’ll be fulfilling what the Scripture teaches when it says, ‘Every word may be verified by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷And if he refuses to listen, then share the issue with the congregation *in hopes of restoration*. If he still refuses to respond, even to the church, then you must disregard him as though he were an outsider, on the same level as an unrepentant sinner.

- A. Hopes of Restoration
B. The Process of Forgiveness
C. Let’s Categorize our Relationships

III. JESUS’ RESPONSE TO PETER

Matthew 18:22 (TPT) Jesus answered, “Not seven times, Peter, but seventy times seven times!”

- A. I need to go 490?

IV. I CAN’T DO IT

Ephesians 4:31-32 (TPT) ³¹Lay aside bitter words, temper tantrums, revenge, profanity, and insults. ³²But instead be kind and affectionate toward one another. Has God graciously forgiven you? Then graciously forgive one another in the depths of Christ’s love.

- A. Stories of Forgiveness

V. FORGIVENESS EXTENDED

- A. There will be times I need to forgive and times I need to be forgiven

Ephesians 5:1 (TPT) Be imitators of God in everything you do, for then you will represent your Father as his beloved sons and daughters.