

# **Extreme Forgiveness Matthew 18:21-35**

## **I. Humility in relationships**

### *A. Background*

1. Offense as debt
2. Hyperbole as humor

### *B. Why forgiveness is so central to the heart of Jesus*

1. Every sheep counts: Mat 18:12-14
2. We can't be forgiven unless we forgive: Mat 6:12, 14-15
3. Don't let others remain in unforgiveness: Mat 5:23-24

### *C. Overall framework (Matthew 18:1-19:15)*

1. Humility like children (18:1-7, 10-14; 19:13-15)
2. Restoration of brother who sins (18:15-20)
3. Forgiveness (18:21-35) and marriage commitment (19:1-12)

## **II. Forgiveness in the Church**

### *A. Commitment strengthens the relationship; 2 models*

### *B. Forgiveness as foundation for the Church*

### *C. Not forgiveness: uniqueness of Jesus' teaching*

### *D. How to deal with repeated, ongoing offenses (Mat 18:15-20)*

## **III. What to do**

### *A. How to obey: Christ in you; John 17:20-23*

### *B. Obey Jesus*

### *C. Monumental effort in reconciliation, by His strength*