

Born with Identity
Part 5: Forgivers of People's Pocket Change!
Slide Notations

Born w/Identity: Forgivers of People's Pocket Change!

Take along's... *Word and Spirit people!* "I stand or fall by the Word of God and live and breathe by His Spirit!"
Servant and Slave people! "I strive to become His slave, knowing it's better to be a slave in the household of God than to rule the kingdoms of this world!"

Things slaves never say...

I was God's Slave and He led me into a bad relationship/marriage! I was God's Slave and He caused me to neglect and abuse my family! I was God's slave and He overworked, underpaid and neglected me! I was God's Slave and He led me into a bad financial investment/purchase!

Slave hero's... *People who work with our kids!* Especially nursery/little kids... Some people see folks sacrificing to serve crying kids/drudgery/no-little immediate gratification... God sees folks laying down lives to set foundations in kids who can grow to become great in the kingdom by Godly care w/eternal rewards! ***People who serve humbly, like Jesus!***

"I live by the Word and breathe by His Spirit; I am a Servant to others and a wholly owned Slave to God..."

Mt 18.23-35 The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done... Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the tormentors until he should pay all that was due to him. ***So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.***"

Dealing with the Text... Jesus speaking... issue is forgiveness! Already expressed pretty clearly His mind toward the issue of forgiveness! **There will be need to forgive...** In the world there will be offences! Woe to those who cause offences! But if they offend you, try to reconcile! Try real hard to reconcile!

Peter asks what we all want to know: "how often, how many times, before we can cut them off and say 'No'?" Jesus answers, "forgive an innumerable amount of times..." and backs it up with our parable...

There was a King taking an account! Glimpse the record keeping of heaven! One guy was brought in who owed Him 10,000 talents! (Galilee annual rev: 300), 1 talent = 750 oz. silver x 26.73 x 10k = \$200,475,000 (no one on earth/debt...) **And he couldn't pay any of it! King ordered "take him, his family and possessions and sell it all..."**

The debtor: "fell down and worshipped him saying, Lord, have patience with me and I will pay you all!" Acknowledges the debt, begs mercy... "Give me time!" [200 millennia] In horror, promises impossible things...
The Lord: "Moved with compassion he loosed him AND forgave him the debt!" ***Should have been the most gracious man on earth to those indebted to him!***

The same guy: went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred pence... 12½ oz. @26.73=\$334.13 “small...” \$1.70 per million! And he took him by the throat... **The fellow-servant:** fell down before him and begged for time to pay! **And he wouldn't budge, and he put him in prison until it was paid off!**

When the Lord heard about it He called the man in and said... “You wicked servant, I FORGAVE YOU AN UNPAYABLE DEBT JUST BECAUSE YOU ASKED ME...” “Shouldn't you have shown this debtor of pocket change the same compassion I have given to you?” and the Lord was angry!

The Lord is the LORD, the fellow-servant represents people who owe us debts of pocket change, and the wicked servant is us, if we do not forgive!

1986-1993 Today's message began January 12, 1986. Lady in the crowd, hurt, pained by husband's decisions/actions, “getting” the concept of “Pocket Change!” Bought 2 tapes, copied 1, wore them all out forgiving her husband/everyone else! Fateful day in 1991! Drunk driver/high rate of speed/crashes into the back end of car... Killing her daughter/grandson instantly...

Next two years even harder! As anger layers over her grief... God, man, and “visitors!” Fear that there would be/see no justice... Innuendo's/threats harm/death. Continuances! Survived 3 heart attacks/sheer will to see justice done... Low point: bought a gun. Appeal in Austin/back on track!

Day of the Verdict, 1993: “Marilyn? What are you doing here?” “I'm waiting for the verdict on the man who killed my daughter and grandson!” “Cere, what are you doing here?” “I'm here as a character witness for the man on trial.”

Right Judge/right jury/“Guilty” Judge gives 30 days to put house in order “You will serve full term/24 yrs.” Marilyn gets on a plane/leaves state

Marilyn got justice... just not done...! “Hello Marilyn... I need to ask you... can you find it in your heart to have mercy on him?”

One week of wrestling with God... “You can honor Patsy, Jordan and Me by forgiving and asking for mercy!”

All together on the day of sentencing! Man had worked feverishly to get his wife, baby boy, house prepared for his absence... We were all expecting the full weight of the law... When we heard the Judge say: “I have received a letter from Mrs. Nelson, the Mother & Grandmother of the deceased... asking the court for mercy for the defendant!”

The letter asked for mercy, a constructive sentence, all on the behalf of the man's little boy... ***“There can be no justice served by taking this little boy's father away for 24 years!”***

Man received leniency he didn't deserve (mercy), wife and son had a gift from God couldn't have expected (grace), and Marilyn walked free in covenant with God (liberty)!

Not Done! So... what do you have? Incestuous or date rape? Still here to live! Mate betrayed me w/adultery? Still here to live! Loved ones abused me, cheated me, lied to me and plotted against me? Still here to live! Heartbreaking life disappointments? Still here to live!

“The more you preoccupy yourself with what happened to you the less you'll know about the life God has provided for you!”

“When you stand praying forgive anyone you have anything against... that your Father in heaven may also forgive you of your current trespasses!” **Mk11.25** “And if they continually sin against you... forgive, from your heart, as many times as seventy times seven times in a day!” **Mt18.21, 35, Lk 17.4** And if you don't... “the Lord is provoked and exasperated and surrenders the unforgiving one to the tormentors until he pays all that is due Him!” **Mt18.34**

Unforgiveness... *Unforgiveness binds us w/bitterness and anger to the one who has hurt us! If we really want to get away – forgive! If we really want to get ahead – forgive! Let God avenge! If we want to be healthy – forgive! Is short-sighted! If a “fellow-servant” can do it to you... it is pocket change compared to the forgiveness we have received from God! Is out-of-touch! With what God has forgiven us, we never have a right to claim a debt against another! Is a lack of likeness of God! God is love... he that dwells in love, dwells in God and God in him... Love covers a multitude of sin! No torment in God for God is love! *Binds us to torment...* until we finally come and repent for the sin we are committing against God! Torments are never good! Stay healthy – forgive others their sins! He who knows what to do and doesn't, to him it is sin! **James 4.17** Whatsoever is not of faith is sin!*

R14.23

Our sins separate us from God! **Is59.2** And withhold good things! **Jer 5.25**

Unforgiveness is the lack of love, of faith, of the employment of faith for those who have the identity of being forgiveness-followers!