

FORGIVING OTHERS

Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you? (Matthew 18:33, NIV).

The kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. A man who owed him millions was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had, be sold to repay the debt.

The servant fell on his knees. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

Then when this servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him hundreds. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

"But he refused. Instead, he had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and told their master.

"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?'

Prayer: Ask the Spirit to show you who you still need to forgive. Forgive that person. If that is too hard, give the case over to God and let him judge justly.