

COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Today we return to our series on Total Forgiveness.

*Forgiveness is **never contingent on someone else's response**, behavior or life change... it is a matter of our response and **obedience to God** ...*

The key to 70x7 forgiveness

Luke 7:36-48- One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. ³⁸Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them.³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" ⁴⁰ Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied. ⁴¹ Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people – 500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. ⁴² But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. ⁴⁴ Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. ⁴⁷ "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." (NLT)

The attitude of gratitude begins when we

Understand the magnitude of sin

Sin is what sent Jesus to the cross

- **Isaiah 53:4** – He was **wounded** for our transgressions... **bruised** for our iniquities... the **chastisement** of our peace was laid on him.... the LORD has laid on him the **iniquity** of us all. (NKJV)
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** – He became sin for us... (NIV)
- **1 Peter 2:24** – “He himself **bore our sins**” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness (NKJV)

Luke 18:9-13 -To some who were **confident of their own righteousness** and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ ¹³“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘**God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. (NIV)

Isaiah 1:18 – “Come now, let’s settle this,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, **I will make them** as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, **I will make them** as white as wool. (NLT)

TCC- Gratefulness begins with a real grasp of the cost of forgiveness... Jesus gave His life for me

The next thing we must understand in developing a grateful heart

Jesus specializes in people

The first words he spoke on the cross was father **forgive them... this was the mission from the very beginning**

Luke 15:1- Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. ² And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, “**This Man receives sinners...**

- **Luke 11:19**- ... a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ (NIV)
- **Matt 9:13**- I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

No dumpster diving

*Bless those who curse you... pray for those who use you in spite...do not render evil for evil
Overcome evil with good... go the extra mile...restore others in the spirit of meekness... when you stand
praying forgive... lay your life down for the brethren*

This is living 70x7- a lifestyle of forgiving

Colossians 2:13 – You were dead because of your sins ... Then God made you alive with Christ, **for He forgave all our sins.** (NLT)

Jesus Christ unleashed us from the bench of un-forgiveness and threw it in the dumpster!!