



March 10, 2019

Matthew 18:15-35

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

God, you have forgiven us a world of transgressions. Make us likewise gracious to those who are in debt to us, showing them the mercy which you offer to all. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times." (Matthew 18:21-22)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

We owe God a considerable debt, yet all has been forgiven us. How much more ought we to pardon our brothers and sisters for their relatively minor sins against us?



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

In our litigating society, how does culture view justice? How does it view forgiveness? What might happen if people practiced forgiveness over blame and the need for restitution?

Who stands in need of your forgiveness? What would it take to make you ready to forgive?

For the littles: Have you ever told someone, "I forgive you"? What did it feel like? Jesus is happy when we forgive.



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God grant you strength to forgive. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Follow a court case that is spotlighted in the media. Identify places where Jesus' words for forgiveness might break in. How would extravagant forgiveness alter the outcome of the trial?



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.
Monday, Psalm 32:1-2, *Psalm*

Tuesday, Matthew 14:1-12, *Death of John the Baptist*

Wednesday, Matthew 14:34-15:9, *Teachings of Jesus*

Thursday, Matthew 15:10-20, *Teachings of Jesus*

Friday, Matthew 15:21-28, *Teachings of Jesus*

Saturday, Matthew 15:29-39, *Teachings of Jesus*

Next Week: Matthew 20:1-16, The Laborers in the Vineyard