



IT'S OMPLICATED

IN A HURTING WORLD

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

**THE DELICATE ART OF
DANCING WITH
PORCUPINES**

LEARNING TO APPRECIATE
THE FINER POINTS OF OTHERS



BOB PHILLIPS

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV 2011)

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him.

Matthew 18:23-24 (NIV 2011)

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him **ten thousand bags of gold (talantōn)** was brought to him.

Matthew 18:23-24 (NIV 2011)

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him **\$25 billion (ten thousand bags of gold)** was brought to him.

Matthew 18:23-24 (NIV 2011)

²⁵ 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. ²⁶ At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

Matthew 18:25-27 (NIV 2011)

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Matthew 18:25-27 (NIV 2011)

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- We have a moral right to be angry, to feel resentment.
- **Forgiveness is a decision to willingly give up the right to feel anger and resentment and to instead offer compassion. Forgiveness is an act of mercy.**

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- **Does not mean forgetting**

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²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. ²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' ³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

Matthew 18:28-30 (NIV 2011)

³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.' ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

Matthew 18:31-34 (NIV 2011)

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Matthew 18:31-34 (NIV 2011)

35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Matthew 18:35 (NIV 2011)

³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Luke 23:33-34 (NIV 2011)

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- We have a moral right to be angry, to feel resentment.
- Forgiveness is a decision to willingly give up the right to feel anger and resentment and to instead offer compassion. Forgiveness is an act of mercy.

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