

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

Matthew 18:21-35
Sunday, July 1, 2018
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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. How many times did Peter think was the most someone needed to forgive someone? What was Jesus’ answer?

Seven times. Seventy-seven times or seventy-times-seven times, but we should not even be counting, just keep on forgiving.

2. How much did the men borrow in Jesus’ parable?

More than they could easily repay. 10,000 talents or 10,000 bags of gold for the one and 100 silver coins for the other.

3. What did the king do to the man who could not repay the gold he had borrowed?

He resolved to sell the man, his family, and his property to reclaim his losses. Then, he canceled his debt. Then he threw the man into prison.

4. Why did the king throw the man who had been forgiven his debt into prison?

When the man had begged for patience and time to repay the debt, the king canceled his debt. When a man owed this man a mere, by comparison, 100 silver coins, he choked him, refused to show him patience or give him more time to repay him, and threw his fellow servant into prison. Therefore, the king threw the wicked man into prison as he deserved.

5. How important is it for someone to forgive others instead of being unforgiving?

It can make an eternal difference.

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