

Lenten Bible Study – March 3, 2021

Matthew 18:21-22

Question: Whom do we need to forgive?

²¹ 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?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Lent: Yearly “reset” – time to take an honest look at several things in our lives:

Forgiveness:

- Seven was the sign of completion.
- Seventy-seven – continually forgive
- Forgiveness does not mean we have to go back if they are hurting us.
- Forgiveness does mean that we give the hurt to God.
- We can forgive even if someone doesn’t repent.
- It is often a process, but could be spontaneous.

When We Don’t Forgive:

- Not forgiving is like drinking poison and waiting for the other person to die.
- It affects us – leads us to hatred.
- “When you hate, the only person that suffers is you because most of the people you hate don’t know it and the rest don’t care.” – Medgar Evers

To Ponder This Week:

- Who has hurt me? What names has the Holy Spirit brought up?
- Have I forgiven that person?