

## Having the Faith to Forgive – Luke 17:1-6

### I. God's Command For Temptation and Forgiveness (1-4)

#### A. Take Care Not To Cause Offense (1-3a)

##### 1. Condemnation falls on those who cause others to sin (1-2)

###### a. Temptations will surely come (1)

- Greek: Impossible that they won't come
- Man is tempted by outside and inside
- Woe (condemnation) to him through whom they come

###### b. Violent Death is Better than causing Temptations (2)

- Millstone: Huge wheel used to grind grain  
no way one man can lift it  
cause
- Drowned in the sea – horrible way to die
- “little ones” – can mean children, those new to faith

##### 2. Guard Yourself From Leading others into Temptation (3a)

###### a. “Keep Hold of Yourselves”

###### b. “Hold Yourselves Under Subjection”

##### 3. Leading others Into Temptation Is Serious Sin

###### a. Women's Dress Leading to Lust

###### b. Bad Advice Leading to Sin

###### c. Using Our Freedom To Lead Others To Temptation

#### B. Take Care Not To Take Offense (3b-4)

##### 1. Forgive the Repentant Brother (3b)

###### a. When A Brother Sins Against You

- Rebuke Him (Lovingly Point out sin)
- If He repents, forgive  
Speaks of Reconciling the relationship  
If there is no repentance, a heart of forgiveness  
should still prevail
- Have A Heart Ready To Forgive

##### 2. Forgive Freely and Repeatedly (4)

###### a. When A Brother Repeatedly Sins Against You

- Even if he sins against you 7x in a day
- Every time he repents, you forgive
- “You must forgive Him”  
Don't mean not to take precautions  
against abuse, danger, etc.

### II. God's Power For Forgiveness (5-6)

#### A. This Forgiveness is Impossible For Man (5)

##### 1. The Apostles Recognize Their Inability

###### a. “Increase Our Faith

###### b. This type of forgiveness is beyond sinful man's ability

###### c. Serbian story – forgiving murderers

###### d. “I can't but I should be able to”

#### B. By Faith, God Accomplishes The Impossible (6)

1. The Object Matters Not the Measure of Faith
  - a. Mustard Seed Faith is Very Small
  - b. Small Faith In God Can Do Miracles
  - c. Mulberry Tree – Deep Rooted, Firm

C. By Faith, Forgiveness Comes

1. Faith in the cross of Christ
  - a. See Our Own Sin
  - b. See Christ's Forgiveness
  - c. See The Necessity of Forgiveness
  - d. All in the same boat