

## The Lord's Prayer: 'Forgive us our debts – Bible Study

### Read:

Matthew 18:21-35 (have Matthew 6:9-15 open too)

### General question:

What stands out to you from this passage?

### Further questions:

#### Initial questions:

1. Did anything stand out to you from the talk on Sunday?
2. How do you feel about the subject of forgiveness? Do you find it easy to forgive others?
3. When Jesus taught about prayer, he included both asking God for forgiveness and forgiving others. How often do these themes appear in the way you pray?

#### God's mercy

1. Jesus uses debt as a picture for sin (v23-24). What about this image do you find helpful?
2. Jesus says that God has forgiven us an absolutely incredible – unrepayable – debt. How can we grow in taking in what this means?
3. How easy do you find it to believe that your [confessed] sin is forgiven?
4. In what ways do you need to know God's forgiveness more?

#### Our call to show mercy

1. Peter asks Jesus (v21) how many times we should forgive people who sin against us. How would you have answered this question?
2. Jesus says we should forgive others 77 times (or limitless/perfect with no boundaries). In what ways do you struggle to forgive? Are there specific situations or people who you particularly have a struggle with?
3. Jesus' parable suggests that the forgiveness God offers us should motivate us to forgive others (see also 1 John 4:19-21). What needs to change for you as a result of this teaching?

#### Response

- Perhaps spend some time in silence before God.
- Use a song, played in the background (or to sing), to lift your eyes to God.