

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for November 23, 1986**

**Forgiveness**  
**Part 2**  
**Matthew 18:21-35**  
**Dale Whitehead**

Introduction: Forgiveness is what is needed to continue relationships with all men. Forgiving is making the relationship more important than what is owed.

1. What does it mean to forgive someone?
2. How many times are we to forgive someone?

Jewish tradition was to forgive three times, so when Peter asked the question he was being gracious by saying seven.

Christ's teaching is unlimited forgiveness. Do I extend forgiveness where there is no repentance or sorrow? Can we ever hold a grudge? Is it ever right to harbor anger? NO! **Ephesians 4:31-32, Luke 6:35-37**

Where did the impression that a person must show sorrow before you should forgive come from? **Luke 17:3-4** Is this a contradiction to the other passages? NO, it means that if someone asks forgiveness you forgive but if they do not ask you also forgive. **1 John 1:7-10, Romans 12:19-21**

We must repent of our sin before God for forgiveness of it. We must not confuse our roll with that of God, for God is the judge.