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Luke 17:1-4 ESV

1 And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! 2 It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. 3 Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, 4 and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

<https://bible.com/bible/59/luk.17.1-4.ESV>

3 Characteristics of Forgiveness

(1) Forgiveness is to be granted to those who have sinned against us.

Luke 17:4 ESV

and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

<https://bible.com/bible/59/luk.17.4.ESV>

Matthew 5:22-24 ESV

22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. 23 So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

<https://bible.com/bible/59/mat.5.22-24.ESV>

(2) Forgiveness is to be granted, on the basis of a verbal confession alone.

Luke 17:4 ESV

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(3) Forgiveness is to be granted, Jesus said, even to those who sin against us repeatedly and habitually.

Luke 17:4 ESV

and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

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Matthew 18:23-34 ESV

23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. 24 When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But when that same

servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. 32 Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.

<https://bible.com/bible/59/mat.18.23-34.ESV>

Matthew 18:21-22 ESV

21 Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<https://bible.com/bible/59/mat.18.21-22.ESV>

Matthew 18:35 ESV

So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

<https://bible.com/bible/59/mat.18.35.ESV>

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