

## GOLDEN TEXT

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Matt. 6: 12.

## DAILY READINGS

M.—Matt. 18: 21-35. The forgiving spirit.

T.—Gen. 50: 14-21. Joseph forgiving his brethren.

W.—1 Sam. 24: 1-12. David and Saul.

Th.—Col. 3: 9-17. Forgiving one another.

F.—Luke 17: 1-10. Repeated forgiveness.

S.—Mark 11: 20-26. That ye may be forgiven.

S.—Matt. 6: 5-15. Do as ye pray.

## TIME AND PLACE

As in previous lesson, at Capernaum in autumn of A.D. 29; five months before our Lord's crucifixion.

## CATECHISM

Q. 34. What is adoption?

A. Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges of the sons of God.

## LESSON PLAN

## THE LAW OF FORGIVENESS

I. Stated, 21, 22.

In answer to Peter's question.

II. Illustrated, 23-34.

By the parable of the king and his servants.

III. Applied, 35.

To their own case.

## LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise—44 (Ps. Sel.); 100; 131; 57; 230.

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

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Juniors—21, 22. At what time was this discourse given? At what place? By whom recorded? What is the Golden Text? Who was the speaker? What question asked? How did Christ answer Peter? What did Jesus say on another occasion? (Luke 17: 3, 4.) How are we to treat our enemies? (Rom. 12: 20, 21.) 23 To whom is the Kingdom of heaven compared? What done by him? Who represented by the king? Who by servants?

24, 25 Why was the servant brought? How much did he owe? What sentence pronounced upon the servant? Who suffered with him?

26, 27 What did the debtor do? What request did he make? How was his request received? How great is God's mercy towards sinners? (John 3: 16.)

28-30 Describe the second scene? How much was the debt? What the treatment of the debtor? Why such harsh conduct?

31 Who were interested onlookers? What did they do?

32-34 What rule did the servant fail to observe? How was he punished?

35 What will God do to the unforgiving? From what does revenge proceed? (Ezek. 25: 15.) Give two most noted instances of forgiveness. (Luke 23: 34; Acts 7: 60.)

Seniors—21 What teaching led to Peter's question? (vs. 15-18.) What was subject of the question? What are motives to forgiveness? (Luke 6: 36; Eph. 4: 32.) What should go with forgiveness? (Matt. 5: 44; Rom. 12: 20.)

22 What limit to God's love? (Ps. 50: 21; 2 Pet. 3: 9.) 23 How did Jesus illustrate His teaching? Who mentioned in the parable? What part taken by each?

24 What does this large amount indicate as to our offences against God? What is sin? (S. Cat. Ques. 14.) Who alone without it? (2 Cor. 5: 21; 1 John 3: 5.) What redeems from sin? (Eph. 1: 7.) What cleanses? (1 John 1: 7.)

25-27 How might the servant have been treated? Why treated differently? Why should compassion be shown? (Heb. 5: 2.) How did God show His great love and pity? (Ps. 130; Col. 1: 14; Isa. 1: 18.)

28-30 Where did the forgiven servant go? What did he do?

31-34 What is the Christian's resort against oppression? (Ex. 3: 7; Jas. 5: 4.) How is the servant spoken of? What was his punishment? Why so severe?

35 What chief lesson to be learned from this parable?

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Bible Side Lights—SEVEN TIMES—Gen. 33: 3; Lev. 4: 6; Josh. 6: 4; 2 Kings 5: 10, 14; Ps. 119: 161. To BE SOLD—Gen. 37: 23, 36; Ex. 22: 13; 2 Kings 17: 17; Joel 3: 3; Amos 2: 6.

FORGAVE HIM—Luke 6: 37; 7: 42; Eph. 4: 32; Col. 3: 13; Ps. 32: 5.

PRISON—Gen. 39: 20; Judges 16: 21; Matt. 4: 12; Acts 5: 18; 8: 3; 28: 20.

WROTH—Gen. 4: 5, 6; 40: 2; Ex. 16: 20; 1 Sam. 18: 8; 2 Kings 5: 11.

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Practical Points—1. Peter revealed his want of spiritual insight by his questions. Our very manner of speaking will reveal what we are and what we are thinking about.

2. By the time we have forgiven the erring one four hundred and ninety times, our love for him will have grown strong enough to forgive him always.

3. For the love of God is broader  
Than the measures of man's mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.—FABER.

4. Petty tyranny is one of the most odious of vices. This debtor was surely the school "bully" when he was a boy.

5. The fellow servants were sorry. There is a strong sense of justice abroad. Depend upon it, your companions will find you out quickly if you are mean or unfair.

6. The unforgiving spirit is a very poor investment. It not only brings no good to its holder, but even more of evil than to his enemy.

7. A dead face will often make us wish we had been more kind.

"And I think in the lives of most women and men, There's a time when all would go smooth and even, If only the dead would find out when To come back and be forgiven."

8. "So live that you may never feel Afraid to say, when at His throne you kneel, Forgive me, Lord, as I forgive my foes."

## FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Jesus' rule for forgiveness?.....

2. What amount did the first servant owe? The second?.....

3. After what measure does God forgive us our trespasses?.....