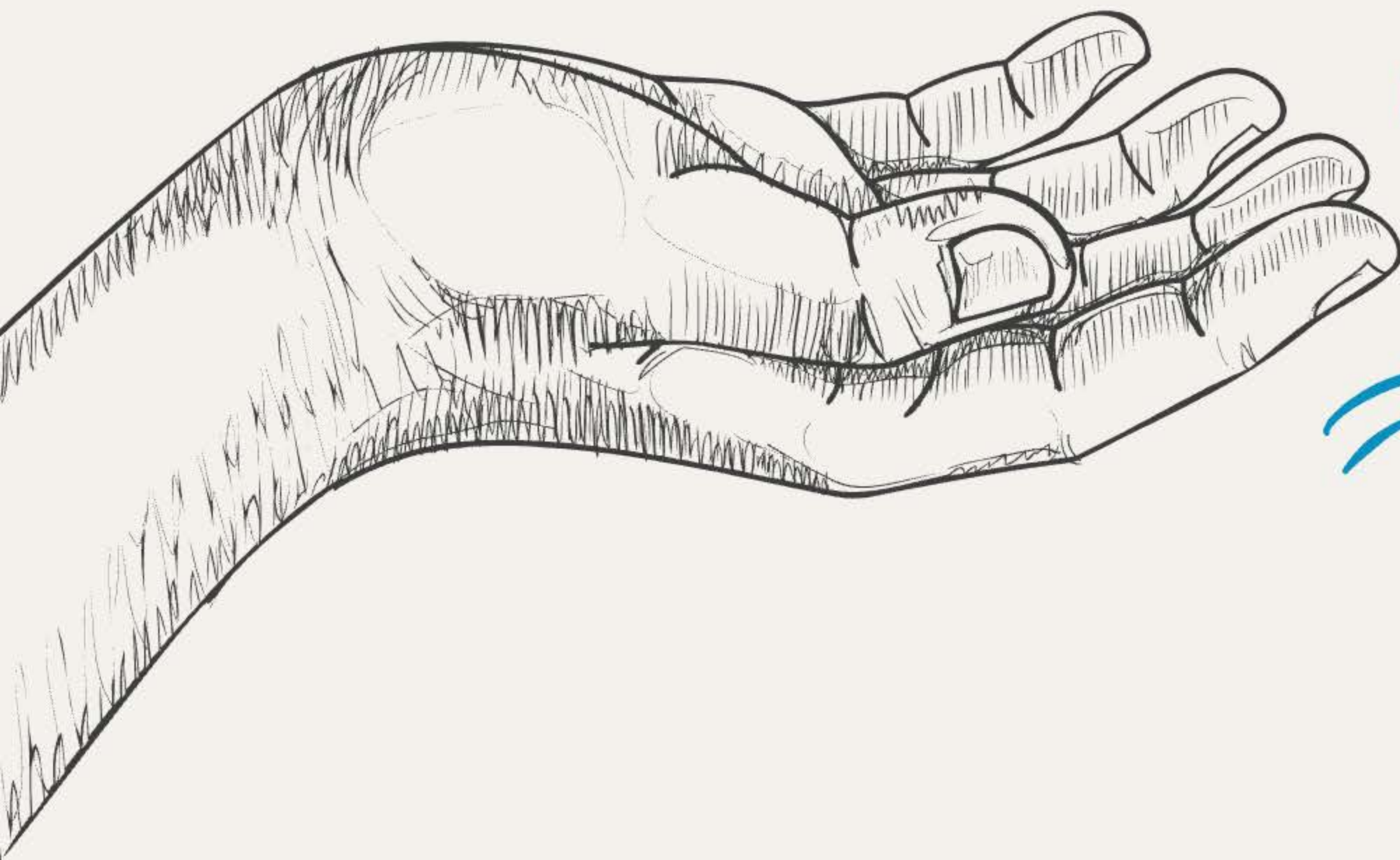


FORGIVENESS

The Oxygen
of the Kingdom



FORGIVENESS

The Hard Work of Forgiveness

Dr. Craig H.



**WHY IS IT SO
HARD TO
FORGIVE?**

“

The church itself is not made up of natural ‘friends’.
It is made up of natural enemies. ”

D.A. Carson, *Love in Hard Places*

F O R G I V E N E S S

Luke 17:1-10

In today's message from Luke 17:1-10, Jesus teaches us WHY forgiveness is so difficult and why we need it, WHAT it looks like to forgive, and HOW we can get the faith we need to overcome our inability to fully forgive.

QUESTION #1:
WHY IS FORGIVENESS SO
DIFFICULT AND WHY DO
WE NEED IT?

Luke 17:1-2

**SIN IS
SERIOUS**

Luke 17

¹ Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come.”

Luke 17

² “It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble.”

**WRATH – Extreme, intense anger, often
accompanied by a deep desire for vengeance or
punishment**

F O R G I V E N E S S

WRATH => WREATH

F O R G I V E N E S S

WRATH => WRAITH

F O R G I V E N E S S

Luke 17:3a

**WE NEED TO FORGIVE FOR
OUR OWN GOOD AND FOR
THE GOOD OF OTHERS**

QUESTION #2:
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE
TO FORGIVE?

Luke 17

3a “So watch yourselves.”

“

Forgiveness flounders because I exclude the enemy
from the community of humans even as I exclude
myself from the community of sinners. ”

Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace*

F O R G I V E N E S S

Luke 17

3a “So watch yourselves.”

1. Identify with the one who has wronged me.

Luke 17

3a “So watch yourselves.”

1. Identify with the one who has wronged me.
2. Inwardly pay the debt of the one who has sinned against me.

Luke 17

3a “So watch yourselves.”

1. Identify with the one who has wronged me.
2. Inwardly pay the debt of the one who has sinned against me.
3. Initiate seeking their highest good.

Luke 17

3b-4 “If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”

Luke 17:3-4

**WE HAVE TO BE TRUTHFUL
WITH OURSELVES,
BEFORE WE ARE TRUTHFUL
WITH OTHERS**

Luke 17:6-10

**QUESTION #3:
HOW DO WE GET THE
FAITH WE NEED TO
FORGIVE?**

Luke 17

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord,
“Increase our faith!”

Luke 17

⁶ He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.”

Luke 17

7 “Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat’?.”

Luke 17

⁸ “Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink’?”

Luke 17

⁹ “Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do?”

Luke 17

¹⁰ “So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

Luke 17:6-10

**OUR PROBLEM IS WE ARE
SERVANTS WHO ARE ACTING
LIKE WE ARE OWNERS**

Luke 17:6-10

**OUR SOLUTION IS TO SEE
THE ULTIMATE OWNER WHO
WILLFULLY BECAME A SUFFERING
SERVANT TO FORGIVE OUR SINS**

Luke 17:6-10

**THE FAITH TO FORGIVE COMES
BY LOOKING TO JESUS AND HIS
SUBSTITUTIONARY SUFFERING
FOR OUR SINS**

Tetelestai (τετελεσται) -
“It is finished.” “I paid it in full.”
- John 19:30



F O R G I V E N E S S

FORGIVENESS

Forgiven People
Forgive

