

Jesus Speaks of Focus, Forgiveness, and Faith (Luke 17:3-6)

³ "Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, **rebuke** him; and if he repents, **forgive** him. ⁴ "And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him." ⁵ And the apostles said to the Lord, "**Increase** our faith." ⁶ So the Lord said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

1. Jesus Commands Us to Focus on Our Greatest _____: _____

a. Our _____

Matt 6:1 "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven."

b. Our _____

Luke 21:34 "But **take heed** to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly."

Rom 13:14 But **put on** the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.

Gal 5:16-17 I say then: **Walk** in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

c. Our _____

Gal 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual **restore** such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

d. Our _____

Eph 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

2. Jesus Dictates Our _____ When Someone Sins Against Us

- a. *The possibility of someone sinning against us*
- b. *The command to rebuke him (not harbor)*
- c. *The expectation of repenting*
- d. *The command to forgive him*

3. Jesus Reveals the Requirement for _____ Forgiveness

- a. *Jesus relays expectations of ongoing forgiveness*
- b. *The same person sins 7 times in one day against you*
- c. *Same person returns, repenting*
- d. *We are to forgive that person*

4. The Apostles React to Jesus' Commands

- a. *They answer (in shock)*
- b. *They consider this beyond their ability (implied)*
- c. *Their request: _____ belief*
- d. *Their view: Belief is an issue of _____*

5. Jesus Explains _____ (Faith)

- a. *Jesus' illustration: Faith as a mustard seed → activity*
- b. *Jesus' explanation:*
 - 1) *Belief is an issue of _____*
 - 2) *Two possibilities: "Belief" or "No Belief"*
 - 3) *Belief = affirming & acting on the truth (obedience)*
 - 4) *"More belief" is a _____ understanding*
 - 5) *"More belief" can be an _____ for disobedience*
 - 6) *You either believe God about any given truth, or you do not*