



Freedom to Forgive

Luke 17:1-6 . January 15, 2017



The Four Most Important Things

I Love You

Thank You

Please Forgive Me

I Forgive You



Barriers to Forgiveness

- *Unhealed pain*
- *Desire for justice*
- *Fear of getting hurt again*



Luke 17:1-2

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin.”



Luke 17:3-4

“If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, ‘I repent,’ forgive him.”



Luke 17:5-6

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

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.”

Sin

- *Violating How We Were Created To Live*
 - *The Opposite of Love*
 - *Steals, Kills and Destroys*

2 Sides of Sin



Penalty

Consequences





*The Penalty
for Sin is
Death*



Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Personal Forgiveness

is releasing someone from having to pay the penalty for their own sins in light of the fact that Jesus Christ has already paid for their sins in full through his physical execution.

Relational Forgiveness

is giving a person who has sinned the best opportunity to repent so that the negative consequences can be changed and loving relationships established.

Steve Diehl, forgivenessministries.com

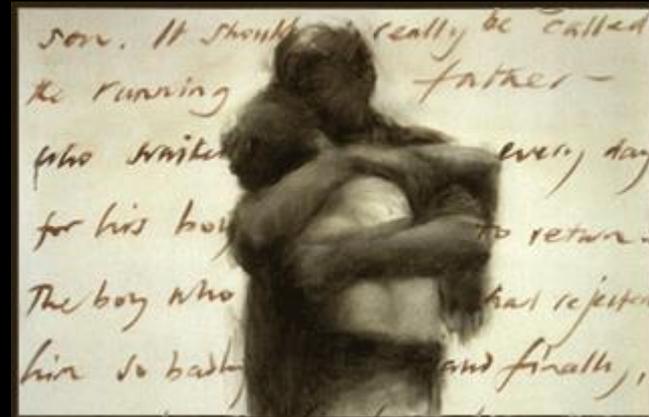
Address the Penalty: Justice

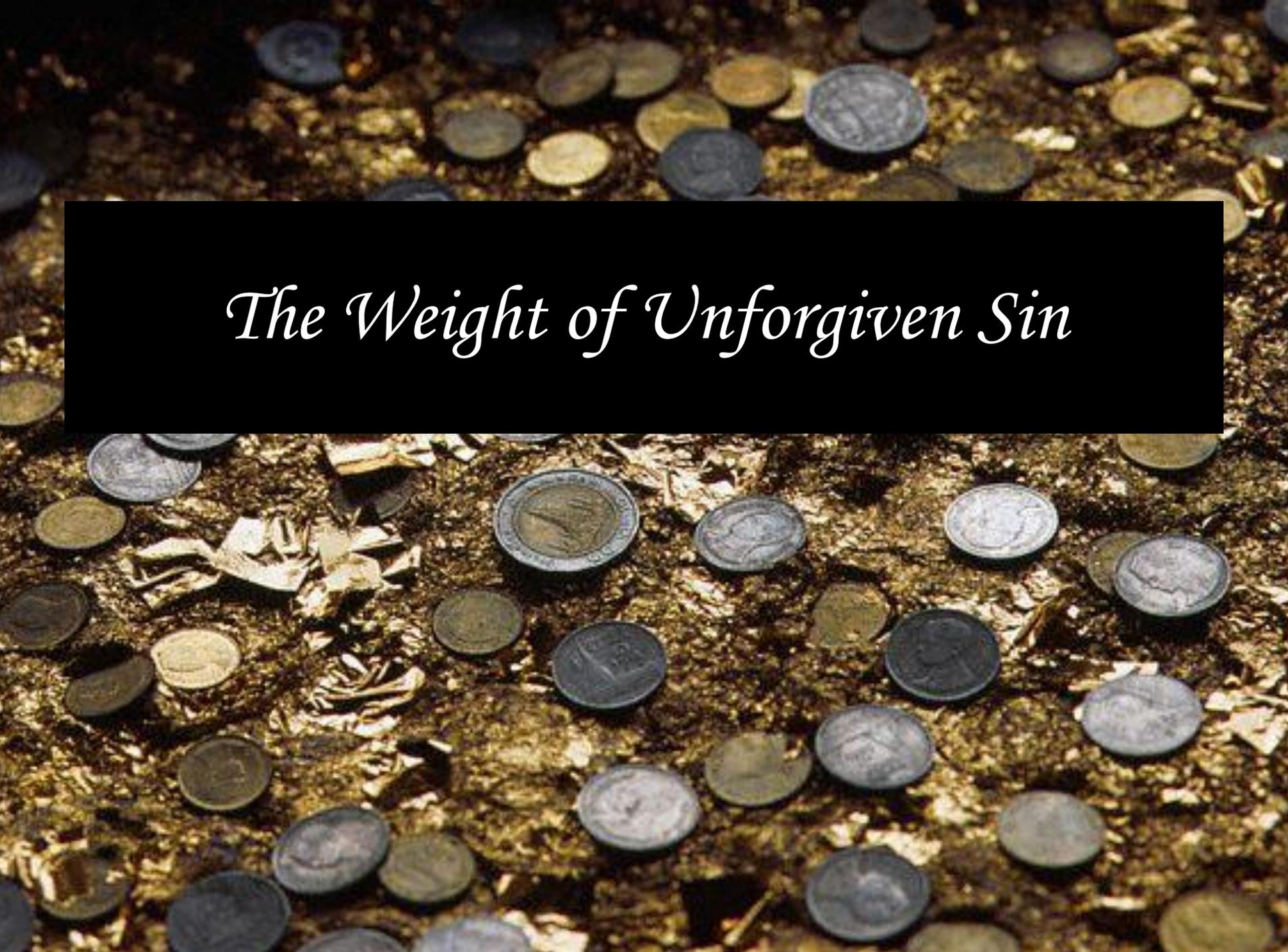
- *Identify the sin*
- *Feel the reality of the sin*
- *Acknowledge God's just penalty (death)*
- *Embrace Christ's death as the full and just payment for the sin*
- *Love as God loves*



Address the Consequences: Restored Relationship

- *Give an opportunity to repent*
- *Communicate how you were hurt*
- *Follow through with appropriate consequences*
- *Let real change demonstrate repentance*





The Weight of Unforgiven Sin

A woman in a dark, patterned dress stands in a field, holding a metal birdcage aloft with her right hand. The cage is open, and a bird is flying away from it. Numerous other birds are seen flying in the sky above. The background consists of a line of trees under a bright, hazy sky.

*Forgive, Be Forgiven
and Be Set Free!*