

Forgiveness

Good morning teachers and students,

I'll begin my speech with a story.

Once upon a time there was a king who decided to check on his servants' accounts. One of the servants who owed the king one hundred million dollars was brought before the king. The servant did not have enough money to pay his debt, so the king ordered him to be sold as a slave, with his wife and his children, in order to pay the debt. The servant immediately fell to his knees and begged the king, "Your Majesty, be patient with me please. I will pay you back very soon." The king showed his understanding about his background and felt pity for him. So, the king cancelled his debt and let him go.

Then the man went out and met one of his fellow-servants who owed him only one hundred dollars. He grabbed his fellow-servant and started choking him. He said, "Pay back what you owe me!" His fellow-servant immediately fell to his knees and begged him, "Be patient with me please. I will pay you back very soon." But he refused; instead, he put him into jail.

Before long, the king heard of what the unkind servant had done to his fellow-servant. So he called the servant in and scolded him, "You worthless slave! I cancelled your debt, just because you asked me to. You should have had mercy on your fellow-servant, just as I had mercy on you." The king was very angry, and he sent the servant to jail to be punished.

Jesus told this story to his disciples in his time. When he finished telling his story, he concluded, "God is like the king in the story. ***He will not forgive our sins unless we forgive others from our hearts.***"

I know a person who was a janitor of a secondary school. In the year of 2003, the janitor was dismissed with immediate effect by the school principal because of her serious misconduct discovered in many circumstances. The school offered her monetary compensation afterwards though she was not entitled to any compensation. She accepted the compensation money and agreed to have the matter settled. However, the janitor could not help bearing hatred (strong anger) in her heart. From the day she left the school, she and her husband had performed a series of tasks in order to make the school principal upset. They meant to take revenge on

the school principal for he had decided to dismiss her. They kept on taking revenge for years.