

LESSON 17 – ASKING FORGIVENESS: JESUS FORGIVES

Q1. What is sorrow for sins?

A1. Being sorry for the sins we have committed and wanting never to commit them again.

Q2. What is sin?

A2. Sin is "a word, an act, or a desire contrary to the eternal Law" (Saint Augustine).

It is an offense against God in disobedience to his love. It wounds human nature and injures human solidarity. Christ in his passion fully revealed the seriousness of sin and overcame it with his mercy.

Q3. What is mortal sin?

A3. Mortal sin is a grave (very serious) sin in which we freely choose to break our relationship with God. This sin destroys charity (love) in us, deprives us of sanctifying grace, and if unrepented, leads us to the eternal death of hell.

Q5. What is venial sin?

A5. Venial sin is less serious. It hurts charity and our relationship with God, but it does not sever (completely break) it.

Q6. Who can forgive sins?

A6. Only God can forgive sins.

WORDS TO KNOW

Forgiveness: The act of pardoning someone who has done something wrong.

PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING DEBTOR (MT 18:23-35)

Q1. How many times did Jesus say we should forgive someone when they sin against us?

77 times (in other words, over and over). Some versions of the bible say “seventy times seven”.

Q2. In the parable, did the king forgive his servant?

Yes, he forgave his servant and did not make him pay back a huge debt.

Q3. What did the servant do for the master to forgive his debt?

The servant fell down and worshipped the king and begged him to have patience with him, promising to pay it all.

Q4. When the servant found someone who owed him money, what did he do?

He grabbed the servant by the throat and told him that he must pay what he owed.

Q5. Did the servant forgive his fellow servant that owed him a small debt?

No, he tried to choke him and then threw him in prison.

Q6. Why was the king angry with the unforgiving servant?

The king forgave the servant a huge debt whereas the same servant did not forgive his fellow servant who owed him just a little money.

Q7. What did the king do when he heard what the servant had done?

He had the unforgiving servant arrested, thrown into prison and tortured until the original debt was repaid.