



Today's Message

Date: October 10, 2021
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: Forgiven and Forgiving

Text: Luke 17:1–4 (ESV)

¹ And he said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

Introduction: In Luke 17, Jesus continues to contrast the path of his followers with the path of the Pharisees. Luke 17:1-4 describes the Christian’s relationship to others. Specifically, we must “pay attention to ourselves” so that we do not sin against others, thus causing them to stumble, and we must quickly extend forgiveness to those who sin against us.

I. True followers of Jesus neither cause offense . . . 1-2

- A. Some will *fall*—it is inevitable. 1a
- B. God will judge those who contribute to their fall. 1b
- C. Their penalty is a fate worse than the worst death. 2

The hinge: “Pay attention to yourselves!” 3a

II. . . . nor hold onto offense. 3b-4

- A. Restore “anyone caught in any transgression.” 3b
Cf. Galatians 6:1
 - 1. Rebuke the sinning brother.
 - 2. Forgive the repentant brother
- B. Never give up on each other. 4

Today’s take-home truth: Followers of Jesus protect the spiritually weak and help them learn to follow Jesus, too.