

# Living In Relationship To God

## Office of the Keys

### Living in Forgiveness

A diver who participated in the Olympics was once asked how he coped with the stress of international diving competition. He replied that he climbs to the board, takes a deep breath, and thinks, "Even if I blow this dive, my mother will still love me." Then he goes for excellence!

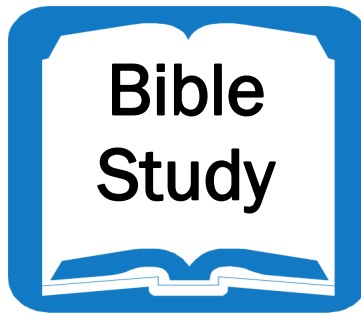
When we get up in the morning, we can take a deep breath, stand on the edge of the day and say, "Even if I should blow it today, my God will still love me," and then go out seeking to do His will.

We live in the forgiveness that God offers in Jesus Christ. Shouldn't we offer that same forgiveness to others?



The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

From *Luther's Small Catechism*



*What do the following passages say to us about forgiveness?*

Day One: Matthew 6:12

Day Two: Matthew 21:21-22

Day Three: Luke 6:37

Day Four: 2 Corinthians 2:7

Day Five: Ephesians 4:32



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### For Discussion:

#### Matthew 18:23-35

Read the above passage and discuss the following questions:

1. Christian stewardship begins with God giving to us. In the parable what did the master do for the servant in verse 27?
2. Christian stewardship calls for a response. What is the response of the servant in verse 28?
3. What kind of steward was the servant?
4. Why did the master respond the way he did in verses 33-34?
5. Why is it sometimes very difficult to forgive?

### Stewardship Truth

Living in relationship to God means that I forgive as I have been forgiven.