

FORGIVING LEGITIMATE DEBTS
Nehemiah 5, Lesson #6
DEBTS - OWING - FORGIVING

now, I gotta ask you:

When are you going to let go of that thing? You know, that thing they did to you years ago?

You wear that grudge like a cheap pair of hand-me-down shoes. It's a good day to let it go.

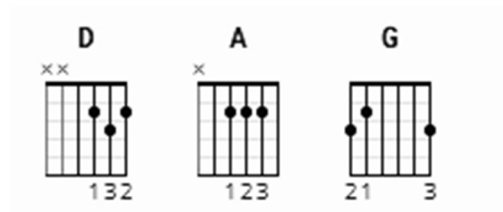


He's Able, by Paul Paino, 1957
guitar starts on 2nd string

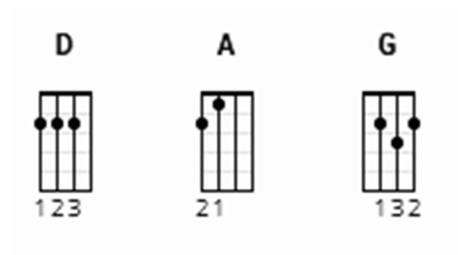
D A D G
He's able, He's able, I know He's able;
D A D
I know my Lord is able to carry me through. 2x

G
He healed the broken hearted
D
And set the captive free;
E
He made the lame to walk again
A
And caused the blind to see. (That's why...)

guitar



ukulele



LOAN SHARKING 101

DON'T *DID* THIS THING TO YOUR OWN SELF
ez ways that we get “suckered” into robbing ourselves



DON'T BORROW TROUBLE

if you don't have it, don't spend it.

Proverbs 27:1 Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.



DON'T DO THIS TWICE

it costs more than a bank's monthly fees

Proverbs 28:8 One who increases his possessions by usury and extortion Gathers it for him who will pity the poor. NKJV



I NEED A CASH FIX

you walked into your own trap – just do without

Proverbs 20:16 Take his garment that is surety for a stranger: and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.



MILLIONS LOST DAILY

for every million won, there is double losses

Proverbs 13:11 Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.



THOU SHALT NEVER

the house always finds a way to keep your money

1 Timothy 6:9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.



29% INT. ADDICTION

you bought a bed on credit, they'll repo it later

Proverbs 22:26, 27 Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

EVERYONE REWARDS HARD LABOR. EVERYONE PITIES THE HARDWORKING POOR GUY.

Shall we mention the opposite? No, it's a given.

Nehemiah Chapter 5 Forgiving Legitimate Debts

1 And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews. **2** For there were that said, We, our sons, and our daughters, *are* many: therefore we take up corn *for them*, that we may eat, and live. **3** *Some* also there were that said, **We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we might buy corn, because of the dearth.** **4** There were also that said, We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, *and that upon* our lands and vineyards. **5** Yet now our flesh *is* as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and *some* of our daughters are brought unto bondage *already*: neither *is it* in our power *to redeem them*; for other men have our lands and vineyards.

6 And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words. **7** Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them. **8** And I said unto them, We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing *to answer*. **9** Also I said, It *is* not good that ye do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the heathen our enemies? **10** I likewise, *and* my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I pray you, let us leave off this usury. **11** Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, also the hundredth *part* of the money, and of the corn, the wine, and the oil, that ye exact

of them. **12** Then said they, We will restore *them*, and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they should do according to this promise. **13** Also I shook my lap, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.

Nehemiah's Testimony of Generosity

14 Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the **twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes** the king, *that is*, **twelve years**, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor. **15** But the former governors that *had been* before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God. **16** Yea, also I continued in the work of this wall, neither bought we any land: and all my servants *were* gathered thither unto the work. **17** Moreover *there were* at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and rulers, beside those that came unto us from among the heathen that *are* about us. **18** Now *that* which was prepared *for me* daily *was* one ox *and* six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people. **19** **Think upon me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.**

Forgiving Legitimate Debts

Nehemiah 5:1-19

This is Biblical mediation 101

1. Cause of Action – vs. 1-5

a. Class Action Suit – forced to stay poor

Exodus 22:26, 27 If thou at all take thy neighbour's raiment to pledge, **thou shalt deliver it unto him by that the sun goeth down: For that is his covering only, it is his raiment for his skin: wherein shall he sleep?**

b. Destitute Payday Loans

Leviticus 25:35-37 And if **thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him:** yea, though he be a stranger, or a sojourner; that he may live with thee. **Take thou no usury of him, or increase:** but fear thy God; that thy brother may live with thee. Thou shalt not give him thy money upon usury, nor lend him thy victuals for increase.

c. Loan Sharking Brothers

Deuteronomy 23:19 Thou shalt not lend upon usury to thy brother; **usury of money, usury of victuals, usury of any thing that is lent upon usury:**

2. Remediation – vs. 6-13

a. Business Mediation

Nehemiah thought it through and then made his case for the benefit of others.

b. Bible Law

Exodus 22:25 If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury. Deuteronomy 23:19 Thou shalt not lend upon usury to thy brother; usury of money, usury of victuals, usury of any thing that is lent upon usury:

c. Confirmation of Ruling

Psalm 15:5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

3. Pro Bono – vs. 14-19

Forgive: **Yes, Forgive 7 x - Matthew 18:22**
Yes, It is part of the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6
Yes, It is a command. Matthew 6:14, 15

Now let it go: Psalms 103:12

like...

Jesus forgave Peter for denying Jesus (John 21:15-19)

Paul forgave John Mark for ditching the mission field (2 Tim. 4:11)

Husband with Wife or vice versa (Colossians 3:13)

Parents with Children or vice versa (Ephesians 4:32)

Friends (Mark 11:25)

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Is this something that I can do?
Can I even forgive?

I gotta stop trying to make money off my friends.

Do I encourage suing everyone?

How can I give to my neighbor?

Do I tell them "they're forgiven?"

Do I just forgive them

Was that problem so awful that I wear it every day?

If I forgive them, dear Lord, can you help me let it go now?

Did I forgive 7x70 yet today? Matt. 18:22

Ask your friends what problem YOU are hanging on.

If you have trouble letting go. Pray and role play this out with God. Practice true

FORGIVENESS 101

FORGIVENESS IS A CHRIST-LIKE LIFESTYLE

If you have an unforgiving heart, you're taking too many selfies!



FORGIVING OTHERS Forgiveness (124 Occurrences)

Matthew 6:12 Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors.

Matthew 6:14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

Matthew 6:15 But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Luke 17:3 Be careful. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him. If he repents, forgive him.

Luke 17:4 If he sins against you seven times in the day, and seven times returns, saying,

'I repent,' you shall forgive him."

DEBT FORGIVENESS

My get rich scheme failed.

- **ADMIT THAT AS FAILURE**
He that knoweth to do good
- **Tell a FRIEND**
confess your faults
- **State the PROBLEM**
Lotto, etc
- **CUT the Ties**
avoid that minimart
- **BE ACCOUNTABLE**
join a GA group
- **GET A JOB**
2 hr of hard work changes your entire mindset.
- **CHANGE FRIENDS**
All my friends are takers

THE CIRCLE OF FORGIVENESS

God forgave you, now you can forgive others

TRY THIS: If the opposite of stealing is working to give; then what is the opposite of holding a grudge?

Here are a few tools on Chaplain Aaron's "I'm sorry, I don't remember what happened quotient"...



NOT FORGIVING
IS LIKE drinking rat poison

and HOPING
THE
RAT



WILL DIE.

**FYI: DO NOT RETURN FOR
PHYSICALLY ABUSIVE
CONFRONTATIONS. DON'T!**

**Also don't make up blame on
everyone, for everything.**