

THE CITADEL GLOBAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES NUGGETS
SUNDAY, November 15, 2026

THE PARABLE OF THE DEBTORS (2)

By **Pastor Stephen Olusa**

2026: OUR YEAR OF FRUITFUL LABOUR | 2 Chronicles 15: 7

- Giving is the true language of love. Love is not merely spoken; it is demonstrated (**John 3:16, Luke 7:40–50**). Wherever genuine love exists, whether in a home, marriage, friendship, or assembly, giving and receiving will naturally follow.

- The first thing the woman in **Luke 7:40–50** gave was her **tears**. She demonstrated her love by giving her tears. They reflected a broken past and wounded emotions. True love is not afraid of vulnerability. Genuine love opens the heart and allows brokenness, gratitude, and sincerity to be expressed without restraint.

- God is never embarrassed by your emotions. He values every detail of your life, including your tears (**Psalm 56:8**). No tear is wasted before Him; each one is remembered as a memorial in His presence.

- The second thing she gave was her **glory** (**1 Corinthians 11:14–16**). The Bible says that a woman's hair is her glory. The Hebrew word for glory here is *Tipharah*, which refers to the beauty, gifts, and qualities with which a person is adorned, such as intelligence, talent, skill, influence, and attractiveness (**Proverbs 18:16**). Like this woman, we should use our gifts and abilities to bring glory and honour to the Lord.

- The third thing she gave was her **resources**. She brought a very expensive gift to the Lord (**Luke 7:37, TPT**), demonstrating that true love is willing to give sacrificially and offer what is costly.

- The sixth lesson we learn from this woman is that forgiveness is received by faith. Although Jesus commended her great love, she was not forgiven because of her love. Her love was the evidence of the

forgiveness she had received, not the cause of it. We cannot earn God's approval through our works for Him; forgiveness comes by faith in His grace (**Luke 7:50, Romans 5:8**).

- The fourth character in this story is the other guests in the room. Many of them likely left without being justified because they were preoccupied with finding fault in a woman who was receiving God's mercy. They represent those who come to church focused on criticising others yet never experience a personal encounter with Jesus themselves.

- There are certain things God allows to happen to us as reminders and memory joggers. Those who desire to go far with God must be sensitive to the little details, for God often uses them to reveal His purpose, teach important lessons, and direct our steps.

- In the parable of **Matthew 18:21–35**, the first kingdom reality is that believers never outgrow their need for God's forgiveness (**1 John 1:7–9**). Forgiveness is not only a past experience received at salvation; it is also a present and ongoing reality, as the blood of Jesus continually cleanses us. We live each day in the grace of God's forgiving and restoring work.

- The closer you draw near to the Lord, the more aware you become of your need for His help and mercy (**1 Timothy 1:15, Isaiah 6:1–7**). An encounter with God's holiness reveals our weaknesses and deepens our dependence on His grace.

> "If you have a full understanding of the magnitude of what God has done for you, you will not find it difficult to forgive, regardless of the gravity of the offence **(Matthew 18:24, TPT).** The clearer your revelation of God's mercy towards you, the more readily you will extend that same mercy to others."

- **Reality number two**: Believers offend one another. It is an unavoidable reality of life and relationships (**Matthew 18:15–19, Philippians 4:2–3**). However, what matters is how we respond to those offences. Our willingness to forgive, reconcile, and walk in love often determines the extent to which we experience God's presence and fellowship among us.

- **Reality number three**: Believers are commanded to forgive. Forgiveness is not a suggestion or a matter of personal preference; it is a divine command (**Ephesians 4:31–32, Colossians 3:12–13**). As those who have received God's mercy, we are called to extend that same mercy to others, regardless of the offence.

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- **Reality number four**: Unforgiveness is deadly (**Mark 11:25–26, Matthew 6:14–15, Luke 6:37, James 2:13, Proverbs 17:22**). Unforgiveness hinders our relationship with God and affects our well-being. When you hold others in your heart, you hold yourself back. Freedom comes through releasing the offence and extending God's mercy to others.



PRAYER POINTS

1. Father, give me a deeper revelation of Your love and forgiveness, so that my life will continually reflect gratitude, devotion, and genuine love for You.

2. Lord, help me to surrender everything to You, my emotions, gifts, abilities, influence, and resources, and use them for Your glory and honour.

3. Father, keep me sensitive to the lessons and directions You

reveal through the events and details of my life, that I may walk closely with You and fulfil Your purpose.

4. Lord, grant me the grace to forgive others freely and completely, remembering the greatness of the mercy and forgiveness I have received from You.

5. Father, uproot every trace of unforgiveness from my heart. Help me to walk in love, reconciliation, and freedom, so that nothing hinders my fellowship with You.