



**September 6 2020 // Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time // Lectionary: 127 // Gospel MT 18:15-20**

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

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**Spiritual Reflection:** For Christians forgiveness is not an option, but is part of our daily struggle to be holy. Here are seven quick tips about forgiveness.

- Remember that everybody makes mistakes, including yourself!
- Forgive – not for their benefit, but for your own peace of mind!
- Remember a time when you were forgiven
- Remember what you liked about them
- Every time you think of them, breathe deeply and smile
- Understand you won't be angry forever, so why hold on to something that's going to go away anyway?
- Be kind instead of right

**Spiritual Questions:**

1. Why is forgiveness so important to God?
2. Why is so hard to forgive?
3. How does unforgiveness affect you?
4. How does forgiveness build you up?
5. How can you help others forgive?