

#### Principle 1 & 2

Realize I'm not God; I admit that I am powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and that my life is unmanageable.

Earnestly believe that God exists, that I matter to Him, and that He has the power to help me recover.

#### Principle 3 & 4

Consciously choose to commit all my life and will to Christ's care and control.

Openly examine and confess my faults to myself, to God, and to someone I trust.

# Voluntarily submit to every change God wants to make in my life Principle 5 and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.

## Evaluate all my relationships; offer forgiveness to those who have Principle 6 hurt me and make amends for harm I've done to others except when to do so would harm them or others.

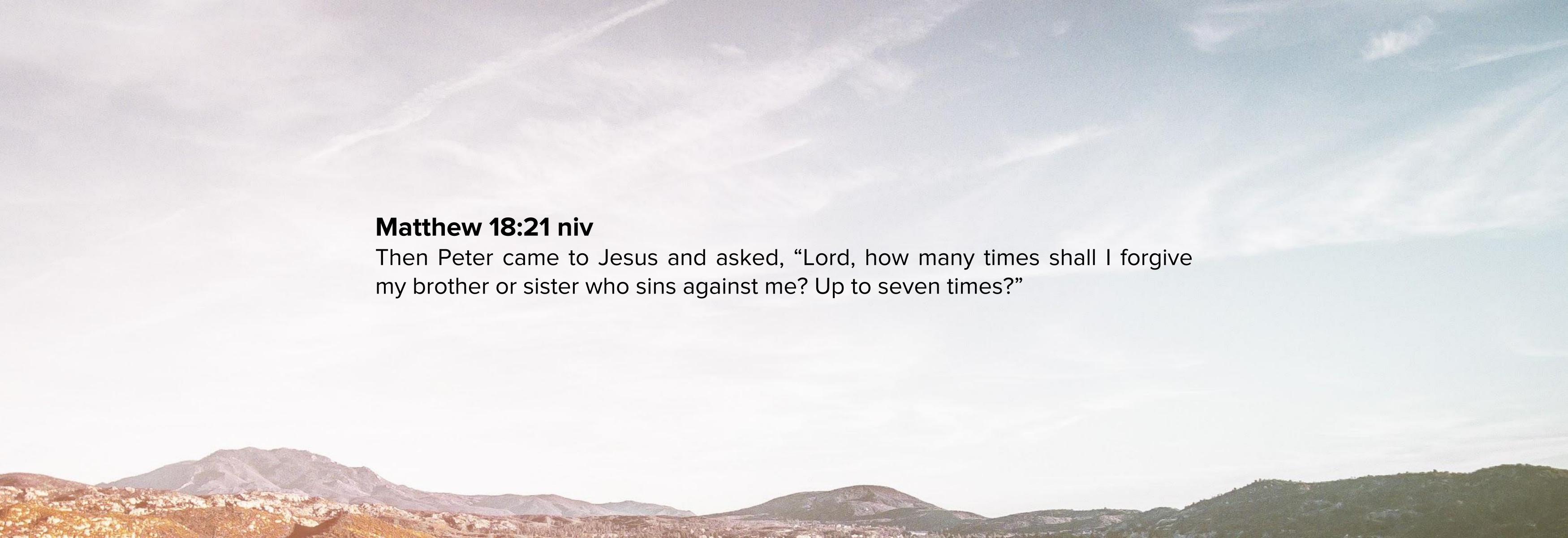
## Can God restore my relationships?

Evaluate all my relationships; offer forgiveness to those who have hurt me and make amends for harm I've done to others except when to do so would harm them or others.



# Forgiveness is ground zero for right relationships.





## Matthew 18:21-22 niv Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

#### Matthew 18:23-27 niv

"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. <sup>26</sup> "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go."

#### Matthew 18:28-30 niv

"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. <sup>29</sup> His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' <sup>30</sup> But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt."

#### **Matthew 18:31-33 niv**

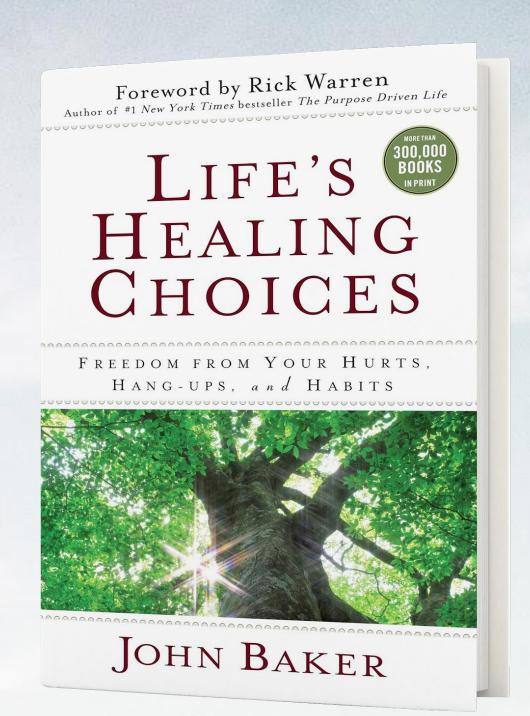
"When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. <sup>32</sup> Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?"

# Forgiveness is ground zero for right relationships.

To be Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you. - C.S. Lewis

### Why should you forgive others?

- 1. Because God has forgiven you.
- 2. Because resentment doesn't work.
- 3. Because you will need forgiveness in the future.



## Evaluate all my relationships; offer forgiveness to those who have Principle 6 hurt me and make amends for harm I've done to others except when to do so would harm them or others.

### Can God restore my relationships?

#### Colossians 3:13 niv

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.